

At Auschwitz Ceremony, The Agonies of the Past Still Torment the Living

By Rick Atkinson
Washington Post Service

OSWIECIM, Poland — The children of Auschwitz marched back into the kingdom of death again Thursday, shuffling through the iron gates and down the muddy track that led to the gas chambers and the ovens.

This time, however, they came not as victims but as survivors and as mourners, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the liberation by Soviet soldiers of the most notorious Nazi extermination camp.

"God of forgiveness, do not forgive those murderers of Jewish children here," said Elie Wiesel, a Nobel prize winner and an Auschwitz survivor, as he prayed next to the rubble of Crematoria II. "Remember the nocturnal processions of children and more children and more children, frightened, quiet, so quiet and so beautiful. If we could simply look at one, our hearts would break."

Heartbreaking it was, as more than 1,500 people — including several survivors like Mr. Wiesel — followed the now-rusty rail spur that brought more than 1.1 million people to their deaths. "Auschwitz is the largest cemetery in the world, one without gravestones," said Maurice Goldstein, a Belgian surgeon and camp survivor who heads the International Auschwitz Association. "Only the ashes of countless souls were strewn here."

But the ceremony on Thursday was nearly overshadowed by an ugly dispute between Jewish groups and Polish officials over how to properly honor the dead. The World Jewish Congress, among others, has accused the Polish government of insensitivity and bungling

in planning the two-day commemoration.

Jewish leaders, noting that 90 percent of the victims at Auschwitz were Jews, felt particularly aggrieved that the ceremonies scheduled for Friday had excluded Kaddish, Judaism's traditional prayer for the dead.

Consequently, Thursday's procession was planned as a defiant rebuke of Poland's president, Lech Walesa; the memorial service ended with Kaddish and the haunting wail of a cantor crying out the names of the Nazi death camps.

Andrzej Zakrzewski, a top Walesa aide, called the separate ceremony on Thursday "astonishing" and suggested, without elaborating, that "personal ambition may be playing a part here." Other Polish officials acknowledge that, during the decades of Communist rule, Jewish suffering at Auschwitz was given short shrift in an attempt to emphasize that 75,000 Poles died here. But they say that historical skew is being redressed by new, honest scholarship.

The dispute illustrates how half a century has failed to assuage the anguish of Auschwitz or to resolve the stewardship of its legacy. And the centuries-old friction between Jews and Poles was on view Thursday afternoon as a scuffle broke out within a stone's throw of an Auschwitz watchtower once manned by SS troops.

A group led by Avi Weiss, a militant rabbi from New York, traded insults and shoves with several Poles outside a Carmelite nunnery, which many Jews feel is an offensive effort to impose a Christian gloss on what is fundamentally a Jewish shrine. Pointing to a huge wooden cross

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A woman weeping Thursday at the remains of the gas chambers at Auschwitz, where more than 1 million were killed.

EU's Leader Argues for Innovation, Not Quotas

Santer Rejects Policy Of Protectionism as 'Something Artificial'

By Tom Buerkle

International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS — Jacques Santer promised Thursday that as president of the European Union's executive commission he would push for a Europe that is open economically and culturally, saying in an interview that innovation rather than protection held the key to Europe's future.

"You don't help your enterprise with a policy of protection," Mr. Santer said. "A quota is always something artificial that can only last for a certain period of time."

In a 90-minute interview, his first since replacing Jacques Delors on Monday as president of the European Commission, Mr. Santer also sketched out a pragmatic, consensual approach toward bridging the gap between German backers of deeper EU integration and skeptics in Britain and France, as well as the gap between EU leaders and their citizens.

A governmental conference next year on reforming EU institutions should seek evolutionary improvements in cooperation on foreign policy, immigration and judicial affairs, he said, building on the 1992 Maastricht Treaty on European Union rather than dramatically overhauling it.

"I don't attach importance to great speeches or philosophy," he said. "If we want to bring Europe closer to the citizens, we must give an answer" to the problems of unemployment, instability on Europe's doorstep, and increasing crime and illegal immigration at home.

The Union also should work to end Britain's exemption from EU social legislation, Mr. Santer said, but he did not envisage any sanctions against London as one European think tank suggested this week.

"In a Union of 15 now, you must take into account the sensibilities of everyone," he said. "You can't build Europe against anyone."

Mr. Santer also made these points: • He called Prime Minister Edouard Balladur of France "a man of good sense" who would not weaken France's allegiance to the Union if he wins the presidency this spring. Mr. Balladur created a stir in November by calling for cooperation among different circles of EU states on areas like defense and Mediterranean security, but his declared support this week for a single EU currency at the early target date of 1997 showed he was "very committed to European policy," Mr. Santer said.

• He argued against any relaxation of the Maastricht Treaty's tough inflation and deficit criteria in order to achieve monetary union in 1997, saying they were essential to winning the German public over to a single currency. "The single currency must be as strong as the Deutsche mark," he said.

• Although acknowledging that Europe is most likely to maintain television quotas for some time, he indicated a strong preference for incentives over import restrictions

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Voters Like Clinton Talk, but They Doubt It Will Wash

By Isabel Wilkerson

New York Times Service

RIVER GROVE, Illinois — Frank Faruggia's family and a half-dozen friends, frequent guests in a household that always seems to be bustling with them, sat watching the State of the Union message on a television set in the Faruggias' kitchen on Tuesday night.

As President Bill Clinton spoke of coming "to this hallowed chamber two years ago on a mission," admitted that he had made some mistakes since then but told, too, of the lower unemployment and inflation the country had experienced since he took office, Mr. Faruggia just stroked his beard.

As the president declared that he was "proud to say tonight that our country is stronger than it was two years ago," Mr. Faruggia's friend John Valentino, a plant engineer, lighted another Marlboro.

As the president resurrected his "new covenant" and spoke of plans to ease the financial burdens of the middle class, Mr. Faruggia looked over at Mr. Valentino and the two of them laughed.

"New Deal, New Society, New Contract, New Covenant," Mr. Faruggia said. "Same dragon, different head."

It was as if they had heard all this before, they said. And although they could not find much to disagree with in the president's speech — who is against welfare

reform or less bureaucracy? they asked — they doubted that Mr. Clinton or even the new Congress would do much of anything. Mr. Faruggia, 40, a part-time police officer who owns a hot-dog stand and repairs cars on the side, said the speech was "like a cheap life vest."

"It'll float two or three weeks, and then it'll go down the tubes," he said.

Skepticism runs deep in this working-class Chicago suburb of 10,000 people, where a few elections ago most people would tell you they were Democrats, but where last November most people went Republican.

This used to be Dan Rostenkowski territory. But in November, the former chair-

man of the House Ways and Means Committee lost by 66 percent to 34 percent here to Michael Flanagan, an unemployed lawyer who had never held elective office but who was Republican in a Republican year.

This used to be Clinton country as well. But since the president's election, Loretta Page, Democratic precinct captain, has become Loretta Page, Republican precinct captain.

"I was a Bill Clinton fan," said Mrs. Page, who watched the address in her home, not far from the Faruggias'.

"I voted for him because he made you feel good, and it helps he's good-looking."

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Kiosk

Algerian Says Vote Could Be Held in July

Reuters

ROME — The Algerian foreign minister, Salah Dendbi, said Thursday that presidential elections promised by the military-backed government before the end of this year could be held as early as July.

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Rocket Explosion Grounds TV Networks' Asia Dreams

By Kevin Murphy

International Herald Tribune

HONG KONG — A Chinese rocket carrying a telecommunications satellite exploded shortly after takeoff Thursday, thwarting plans by many of the biggest names in cable television to compete head-to-head across Asia with Rupert Murdoch's STAR TV network.

The launch failure sparked a hectic search by rival international broadcasting groups for backup ways to penetrate the vast market, where two-thirds of the world's potential television viewers live.

At the same time, analysts said the loss of the Long March 2E rocket and its Apstar-2 satellite payload in Sichuan Province considerably raised stakes in the global commercial space race, reopening opportunities for rival launch programs in Russia, Europe and the United States and

inflating insurance premiums for all. The crash was China's third recent launch failure.

Among the networks that must now rethink their pan-Asian strategies are NBC, Turner Broadcasting System, the sports channel ESPN, the Disney Channel and Reuters Television.

Among the dozens of broadcast groups now in the Asian market, only STAR TV operates from a single satellite that can beam right across Asia. It broadcasts a full range of programming into 53 countries.

"This underscores what a risky business we're all in," a spokeswoman for the broadcaster said. "It could have happened to us; we're not gloating."

But analysts reckoned STAR TV had good reason to do so, given the blow a

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Murder Trial of Fallen President Heralds 'Rule of Law' in Malawi

By Bill Keller

New York Times Service

BLANTYRE, Malawi — During three decades of eccentric, regal despotism, Life President Hastings Kamuzu Banda usually had a red carpet unfurled before him when he ventured out into his realm.

So there was a ghoulish curiosity in the crowd that gathered outside the High Court of Malawi the other day, hoping to see the fallen ruler and his confederates endure that humbling ritual of accused celebrities, the perp walk.

"Kamuzu, you have killed our sons!" some chanted, and a few yelled for blood.

But most stood quietly, eager to see if this man who once held them in thrall would look any different now that he had been cut to mortal size.

Eight months after he conceded defeat in an election that was forced upon him, Mr. Banda has been charged with ordering the murder of four top officials of his own government. The men were rounded up by the police and clubbed to death with hammers and crowbars.

The 12-year-old crime, its grisly details itemized in 1,000 pages of testimony, has absorbed this little sliver of southeast Afri-

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HEADING FOR DRY GROUND — A woman and her dogs being evacuated Thursday in Godinne as rivers overflowed their banks in southern Belgium. Wide swaths of Europe were hard-hit by severe storms. Page 2.

French Star's 'Stain' on English Soccer

By Ian Thomsen

International Herald Tribune

LONDON — The future of soccer's most passionate and distressing star is in doubt after the English Football Association charged Eric Cantona, the Frenchman forward who plays for Manchester United, with "misconduct bringing the game into disrepute" for attacking a spectator during a Premier League match.

Cantona was given 14 days to explain his flying two-footed kick, which set off a fistfight with the spectator Wednesday night at Selhurst Park during United's 1-1 draw with Crystal Palace. It was thought to be the first time that a player in English professional soccer had attacked a spectator.

"What happened last night was a stain

on our game," the FA's chief executive, Graham Kelly, said at a packed news conference Thursday. "If any offense is proved, the player concerned is bound to face a severe punishment."

English newspapers were speculating that Cantona faces anything from suspension for the rest of this season to a lifetime ban from English soccer.

He also may face criminal assault charges. Scotland Yard, which polices the London area, said it was continuing its investigation and would interview a large number of spectators about Cantona and his teammate, Paul Ince, who allegedly also threw a punch after being doused with tea and racial abuse as officials and teammates were pulling Cantona away.

The French Football Federation's president, Claude Simonet, who has feuded with the rebellious Cantona, said the 28-year-old forward probably would be stripped of his captaincy of the French national team at the very least. As host of the 1998 World Cup, France had been trying to build a contender around Cantona, who has scored 20 goals in 45 games for his country.

He has led his club teams, Leeds United in 1992 and then Manchester United, to the last three English championships.

"Unfortunately, I think Eric Cantona will have to be taken off the French team," Simonet told Reuters Television. "I'm say-

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Bonn Launches Work Plan for Chronic Jobless

By Brandon Mitchener

International Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT — In a sign that fighting unemployment will be one of its economic priorities this year, the German government announced on Thursday a four-year program to help long-term jobless find new work.

The move was seen as a first step toward rebuilding the famed German social consensus that has been stretched thin by several years of increasingly bitter disputes between labor and management over wages, benefits and working hours. It followed the first of several meetings bringing together leaders from German government, labor and industry to discuss employment.

The talks are being watched closely throughout Europe, where workers, employers and governments are searching desperately for new ways to fight unemployment. Some outside Germany think the labor talks could generate ideas suitable for use in other European countries, where, like Germany, even the economic recovery is not likely to greatly reduce unemployment.

For example, German union leaders last week agreed to accept a cut in wages corresponding with a reduction in the number of hours worked if companies would hire more workers. Previously, union leaders had argued that letting employees work fewer hours would create new jobs, but they were generally unwilling to take a pay cut.

"The reduction in the number of working hours is the only reasonable answer to unemployment in the next few years," Sergio Cofferati, the Italian union leader, was quoted as saying in the daily La Repubblica.

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Newsstand Prices

Andorra.....9.00 FF	Luxembourg 60 L. Fr
Antilles.....11.20 FF	Morocco.....12 Dh
Cameroun.....1.400 CFA	Qatar.....8.00 Riels
Egypt.....E.P. 5000	Réunion.....11.20 FF
France.....9.00 FF	Saudi Arabia.....9.00 R.
Gabon.....960 CFA	Senegal.....960 CFA
Greece.....350 Dr.	Spain.....225 PTAS
Italy.....1.400 Lit.	Tunisia.....1.000 Din
Ivory Coast.....1.120 CFA	Turkey.....T.L. 45,000
Jordan.....1 JD	U.A.E.....8.50 Dirh
Lebanon.....US\$1.50	U.S. Mil. (Eur.) \$1.10

Dow Jones

Down 1.01	Up 0.30%
3870.44	108.32

Trib Index

The Dollar	Thurs. close	previous close
DM	1.8178	1.8177
Yen	1.5905	1.5915
FF	99.445	99.525
FF	5.255	5.2485

Yeltsin Says Rocket Prompted Hot-Line Alert

Compiled in Our Staff From Dispatches

MOSCOW — President Boris N. Yeltsin said Thursday that he had used his hot-line link to his generals when Norway fired a scientific missile that set off a major security alert in Russia.

Mr. Yeltsin also praised the army and the Interfax news agency for their handling of the incident, which caused widespread alarm Wednesday.

His comments revived speculation about the incident, which was rapidly being dismissed as a misunderstanding between a journalist for Interfax and his source in the Russian military.

In comments Thursday to Interfax, Mr. Yeltsin also suggested that Norway and its North Atlantic Treaty Organization partners might have been trying to test Russia's military readiness.

"I indeed yesterday used for the first time my 'black' suitcase with the button, which is always carried with me," Mr. Yeltsin said.

"I linked up instantly with the minister of defense, with all those military leader-generals whom I need, and we tracked the path of this rocket from beginning to end," he added.

Mr. Yeltsin did not challenge Norway's explanation that the missile, which came down near a group of islands in the Arctic Ocean that belong to Nor-

way, was a research rocket financed by the U.S. space agency.

But his claim that the incident touched off a major defense alert in Moscow was certain to provoke questions in the West about the Russian military's crisis procedures and the level of advice being offered to Mr. Yeltsin.

Interfax initially reported that Russian Air Defense troops had shot down a missile launched from northern Europe, causing consternation among governments and the military around the world.

Interfax later acknowledged that its report was wrong, blaming the mistake on false information from a high-ranking military source.

The "missile" turned out to be a rocket launched to study the Northern Lights. The Norwegians launched it within their own territory, after informing the Russian government.

Norway said Thursday that it had asked its embassy in Moscow to find out why Russia apparently did not know the rocket was going to be launched. A Foreign Ministry spokesman, Ingvald Havnen, said Oslo followed normal procedure in informing foreign embassies, including Russia's, about the launching of a rocket.

It was not clear whether Mr. Yeltsin's communi-

cations suitcase was also the portable nuclear command system that can unleash Russia's atomic forces. The U.S. president has a similar portable system.

Mr. Yeltsin made his comments at the start of a one-day trip to Lipetsk, south of Moscow, to a senior journalist from Interfax.

Apparently referring to Norway, Mr. Yeltsin said: "They, of course, did not expect us to spot it because the rocket was not so big, but we spotted it straight away and determined the place where it came down — a good enough distance from our shores."

Asked what the aim of the launching might have been, he said, "Somebody perhaps decided to test us because the media is saying all the time that our army is weak."

"We knew in a minute where the rocket flew from, where and at what speed it headed and where it would land or splash down," Mr. Yeltsin said, adding that the armed forces had to be thanked for their efficiency.

Diplomats said the president's comments were all the more puzzling because they ran counter to remarks on Wednesday by Russia's new ambassador to Oslo, Yuri Fokin, who said the incident "was nothing but a misunderstanding." (Reuters, AP)

Grachev Assailed by General for Invasion

By Fred Hiatt
Washington Post Service

MOSCOW — A three-star Russian Army general who quit rather than lead troops into Chechnya said Thursday that Defense Minister Pavel S. Grachev had lacked the courage to tell President Boris N. Yeltsin that his troops were woefully unprepared for the invasion.

The officer, Colonel General Eduard Vorobyov, who declined to command the operation in the southern breakaway region unless given more time, said troops were rushed into combat in bad weather and insufficient numbers, with poor intelligence and little training or preparation.

The military has decided not to prosecute General Vorobyov, 56, for mutiny, but he said at a news conference and in a television interview that he was being transferred to the reserves.

General Vorobyov said General Grachev "should have had the courage to tell the president he needed a certain time to prepare the operation to minimize casualties."

In Chechnya on Thursday, Chechen and Russian forces accomplished their first large-scale prisoner exchange, releasing about 40 fighters from each side. The International Red Cross has complained that Russia has not allowed access to any prisoners or reported how many it holds.

Despite Mr. Yeltsin's repeated claims that the military stage of the operation is complete, Russian artillery again subjected the Chechen capital of Grozny to intense shelling.

Shells landed in the southern residential outskirts of the city every three to four seconds on Thursday morning. Among the structures hit was an apartment building where 37 mothers of captured Russian soldiers had been living.

Russian pilots, despite talk in Moscow of moving from fighting to economic reconstruction, continued to target railroad and highway bridges in Chechnya. Refugees streamed out of Grozny.

The official Russian press service reported continued fighting not only in Grozny but also in four other Chechen communities. It also said Chechens "took hold of strategic points controlling approaches to tunnels, bridges and other communications in the mountainous part of Chechnya."

General Vorobyov is one of "six or seven" generals who refused to take part or follow orders during the Chechen campaign, General Grachev said.

On Thursday, the newspaper Izvestia identified two officers who allegedly held their troops back while others were pushing into Grozny during the disastrous New Year's Eve assault.



Lieutenant General Rupert Smith, second from right, arriving at the Sarajevo airport on Thursday. He was welcomed by General Hervé Gobillard, right, and Viktor Andreev, second from left, a UN civil affairs official in the Bosnian capital.

New UN Commander Takes Over in Bosnia

By Roger Cohen
New York Times Service

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — The new British commander of United Nations peacekeeping forces in Bosnia arrived in the capital on Thursday with cool words for his predecessor and no peace for his 24,000 troops to keep.

Visibly nervous, the commander, Lieutenant General Rupert Smith, strode from a United Nations Ilyushin aircraft.

Before him stood the ruins of the Dobrinja district of Sarajevo, testimony to the devastation of Bosnia's long war.

Behind him stood Mount Igman, long contested because the small track that snakes up along it is the one road out of the city controlled by the Muslim-led government.

Asked about his predecessor, Lieutenant General Michael Rose, whose one-year assignment was marked by tensions with

the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the Bosnian government, General Smith said: "Good luck" were his parting words. He told me what he'd done and why he'd been doing it, and that is where we left it.

A change in style seems inevitable under General Smith, a 51-year-old officer who established close links with American forces during the Gulf War, where he commanded the British Army's First Armored Division.

Quiet-spoken, General Smith is expected to keep a lower profile than the mercurial General Rose. General Smith is known as a soldier's soldier, and it appeared telling that he flew to Sarajevo in the discomfort of a Russian-made Ilyushin transport.

On Thursday, Sarajevo was in turn quiet, as it has been since a four-month ceasefire agreement was signed at the beginning of the year.

General Smith said his main aim was to build on that accord to "arrive at a settlement and peace in this country."

But the possibility that the four-month truce might turn into something more lasting appears remote. As General Smith arrived, American, British and French officials were pursuing what have so far been fruitless talks whose modest aim is to get the Bosnian Serbs and the Muslim-led government to the negotiating table.

The officials, members of the "contact group," which also includes Germany and Russia, want the Serbs to accept a map obliging them to give up a third of the land they hold as a prelude to entering talks in which that map could be changed.

The map, presented last July and rejected by the Serbs, offers 51 percent of Bosnia to a Muslim-Croat federation and 49 percent to the Serbs, who now hold 70 percent.

Nurse Is Given Warning Over Appendectomy

Agence France-Press

LONDON — A hospital nurse threatened with dismissal for having performed surgery on a patient was instead given a written warning after a disciplinary hearing, it was announced Thursday.

The Royal Cornwall Hospital Trust said it found that Valerie Tomlinson, 53, had carried out three elements of the Dec. 19 appendectomy for which she had no formal training.

The patient was said to be satisfied with the results of the surgery and does not intend to file a complaint.

Outrage Over a Murder in Spain

By Barry James
International Herald Tribune

The murder of a popular opposition politician by the Basque separatist organization ETA has touched off a wave of revulsion in Spain and even drawn a rare disclaimer of violence by a spokesman for the extremist Basque nationalist party, Herri Batasuna.

Thousands of citizens marched in silence through the streets of San Sebastián for the funeral Tuesday night of Gregorio Ordóñez, a rising member of the Popular Party, which recently nominated him as its candidate for mayor of the resort city. He was a deputy in the regional Basque assembly and his party's spokesman for the region.

Mr. Ordóñez was shot at

point-blank range on Monday in a bar in the city center. It was the third such killing in two years under virtually identical circumstances in a three-block area of the old town, which is the only part of the city controlled by the nationalist party.

In all the shootings, the killer or killers escaped on foot through the narrow streets.

According to Interior Ministry sources, ETA has come under the control of a group of young radical terrorists determined to step up a campaign of violence. In a joint operation in November, Spanish and French police captured documents that indicated ETA was planning to target military and Civil Guard officers, Basque police and industrialists in the region.

Mr. Ordóñez did not have a

bodyguard despite his outspoken criticism of ETA violence.

Herri Batasuna, which many see as a political cloak for the terrorists, did not comment officially on the killing and its representatives were not among the city councilors who led a procession of citizens along the two-kilometer route from the town hall to the church where the funeral was held. But its spokeswoman in San Sebastián, Begona Gamendia, said she deeply regretted the killing "in my personal capacity and as a militant in HB."

She said Mr. Ordóñez was probably the most determined opponent of "anything nationalist or progressive" in the city government. "As a political foe," she said, "he should have been combated with political means."

GERMANY: Job Program

Continued from Page 1

lica, which devoted half a page to the subject on Tuesday.

Jean-Yves Chamard, vice president of the social affairs committee in the French National Assembly, meanwhile, told Agence France-Press that shortening the work week would be a prominent theme in the country's coming presidential elections. "Employment is one of the major worries of our people and the development of working hours solutions is one of the responses," he said.

The German jobs program announced Thursday replaced a similar subsidy program that expired last year. Under the previous program, the government paid up to 80 percent of the wages when a company hired someone who had been unemployed for more than three years. Benefits started at 60 percent after one year of unemployment.

Friedrich Bohl, chief of staff, said the jobs program would help put 180,000 to 200,000 people back to work with subsidies of 3 billion Deutsche marks (\$1.99 billion) over the next four years.

"Everyone agreed that economic recovery must include the unemployed," said Dieter Schulte, head of the Federation of German Unions. "We must do everything to reduce unemployment and ensure that people who have been pushed to the fringe of the labor market are given the prospect of a job."

He made the announcement even as the German government prepared to publish its economic forecast for the year on Friday. The report, copies of which circulated Thursday in Bonn, predicts an average decline in German unemployment by 300,000, to 3.4 million, during the course of the year.

Unicef Head Resigns After 15 Years

PARIS (Reuters) — The executive director of Unicef, James P. Grant, has resigned because of illness after 15 years as head of the agency, the organization said Thursday.

Unicef's Paris office said in a statement that Mr. Grant, an American born in China in 1922, gave a letter of resignation Thursday to the United Nations' secretary-general, Boutros Boutros Ghali.

Mr. Grant had served three five-year terms, and Mr. Boutros Ghali had recently asked him to stay on an extra year. Mr. Grant's deputy, Richard Jolly, will take over until a successor is chosen.

Sierra Leone Mobilizes All Troops

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone (Reuters) — Sierra Leone's military government ordered the mobilization of all available policemen and troops Thursday for the fight against rebel forces, which are gaining on the capital.

The Defense Ministry also said that seven foreign nuns, who had been reported missing earlier in the day after a rebel raid on the northern town of Kambia, had turned up safe. There was still no word on seven other foreigners kidnapped Friday in rebel attacks on mines in the southeast.

Cambodia Holds 11 in Tourist Death

PHNOM PENH (AP) — Eleven Cambodians have been arrested in connection with the Jan. 15 murder of an American woman and her tour guide in the Angkor temple complex.

An official said eight men and three women were detained in connection with the deaths of Susan G. Hadden, a university professor from Austin, Texas, and her Cambodian guide. Her husband, William J. Hadden Jr., was injured in the attack.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Anti-Nuclear Protest Halts Trains

HANNOVER, Germany (Reuters) — Presumed anti-nuclear protesters disrupted rail traffic in northern Germany on Thursday by throwing grappling hooks over power lines in apparent protest against nuclear waste shipments, the police said.

A passenger train on the Hannover-Hamburg line was brought to a halt after being damaged by the hook, which then snagged on a mail train and brought down about 200 meters (218 yards) of electric power line.

Protesters have attacked rail lines and disrupted services several times over the last few months in an attempt to stop the first nuclear waste shipment to an intermediate storage depot at Gorleben, 120 kilometers (75 miles) from Hannover.

The U.S. State Department has renewed its warning to its nationals to avoid travel to Algeria, saying security risks are on the rise.

Nine people were injured when fire broke out early Thursday in a Stockholm underground rail station, the police said. (Reuters)

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THE AMERICAS / GUNS AND VOTES

Prosecutors Seek to Bar Simpson's Witnesses

By David Margolick
New York Times Service

LOS ANGELES — Prosecutors in the O.J. Simpson case asked Judge Lance A. Ito on Thursday to delay the trial and to reopen their opening statement because, they said, lawyers for Mr. Simpson had improperly withheld evidence until the defense gave its own opening statement.

Because of such "egregious issues of misconduct," prosecutors said, some proposed defense evidence should either be limited or barred from the trial. The defense's opening, delivered by Mr. Simpson's chief trial counsel, Johnnie L. Cochran, remained incomplete Thursday both because of the prosecution's request and because one of the prosecutors, William W. Hodgman, was hospitalized Wednesday night for chest pains. Mr. Hodgman was stricken shortly after court adjourned and after heatedly assailing the defense's conduct.

The prosecution has accused the defense of omitting the names of several people that Mr. Cochran alluded to from lists of prospective witnesses, as they are required to do by law. In other instances, they say, Mr. Simpson's counsel did not hand over statements taken from others on that list.

Had they divulged the names, a deputy prosecutor in the case, Christopher A. Darden, told Judge Ito in Superior Court, the witnesses could have been discredited in advance.

"We could have informed counsel that some of these people are heroin addicts, thieves, felons, and one of these so-called material witnesses is the only person I have ever known to be a court-certified pathological liar," Mr. Darden said in a testy court hearing Thursday.

Mr. Cochran expressed sympathy for Mr. Hodgman, whose condition is stable and who is said to be resting comfortably, but quickly moved on to attack him and his colleagues. He charged that prosecutors, reeling from disclosures in his opening and chagrined that someone was finally standing up for Mr. Simpson, were "whimpering" because "they can't stand the truth" and needed time to regroup.

"They went on this public relations media blitz to tar this man, and finally, after seven months, yesterday somebody spoke up for O.J. Simpson," he said. "All across the country, in the highways and byways, they heard what this is going to be. They can't take it. They have the temerity, the unmitigated gall to come in there and complain that they have somehow been sabotaged."

Late Wednesday afternoon, after Mr. Cochran's opening had been suspended, Mr. Hodgman exploded, calling the defense's behavior "outrageous and unbelievable."

Mr. Cochran's remarks made clear, Mr. Hodgman charged, that the defense had withheld statements taken from a variety of people, including a woman who said she saw four suspicious-looking men near Nicole Brown Simpson's condominium in Brentwood around the time that Mrs. Simpson and a friend, Ronald L. Goldman, were stabbed to death. Mr. Simpson is charged with the murders of his former wife and her friend.

Mr. Hodgman also charged defense lawyers with failing to turn over statements, which, he said, they had taken from a variety of witnesses. They related to Mr. Simpson's afflictions — rheumatoid arthritis, dyslexia — as well as evidence of shoe prints, tire tracks and the cut on Mr. Simpson's finger.

"A Pandora's box of discovery issues has just been cracked open this afternoon," Mr. Hodgman complained.



O.J. Simpson lifting a trouser leg to show the jury surgery scars on his left knee.

He Bares His Knee, but Not for TV

Los Angeles Times Service

LOS ANGELES — It was a moment television viewers had hoped to see — O.J. Simpson on display as a living exhibit during opening statements.

But no one outside Judge Lance A. Ito's courtroom witnessed Mr. Simpson on Wednesday as he bared a knee to jurors. It was part of a defense presentation intended to show that the former football star's physical limitations would have made it impossible for him to have committed the murders of his former wife and her friend.

On orders from Judge Ito, the courtroom camera was trained on a wall as the demonstration got under way. Mr. Simpson signed, "I see from the defense table and crossed the courtroom. Standing just inches away from the jury box, he

bent down and lifted his left pant leg. Some jurors in the back row stood and craned for a look at his knee, which his lawyers say has been scarred by repeated surgeries for chronic rheumatoid arthritis.

Reporters nearest to the jury box said Mr. Simpson looked uncomfortable as his defense lawyer, Johnnie L. Cochran Jr., described the misshapen knee.

Mr. Cochran then asked Mr. Simpson to show the jurors a scar on his finger, which prosecutors contend he received in a struggle with victim Ronald Lyle Goldman, but which the defense maintains he suffered when he broke a glass in a Chicago hotel room. Mr. Simpson looked at the wall behind the jurors, seemingly embarrassed, as he stood with outstretched hand for the jurors to see the scar.

House Readies Assault on Arms Ban

By Katharine Q. Seelye
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — More than two dozen Democrats in the House are prepared to oppose President Bill Clinton and join a band of Republicans who are about to undertake an early effort to repeal the nationwide ban on assault weapons that was passed by Congress and signed into law last year.

Egged on by the National Rifle Association, rank-and-file members of both parties in the House want to include a repeal of the ban in anti-crime legislation that could be discussed in committee as early as Friday and could reach the House floor early next month.

The movement started to jell after Mr. Clinton forcefully defended the assault weapons ban in his State of the Union address Tuesday evening. "I will not let it be repealed," he said of the ban on 19 types of assault weapons.

People on both sides of the issue say the House almost certainly has the votes to repeal the ban and may have the votes to override an almost certain presidential

veto. The outlook is far less clear in the Senate.

House Republican leaders, however, would prefer to delay action on the divisive issue until after the first 100 days, which they have set aside to concentrate on their so-called "Contract with America."

The contract includes a reconsideration of last year's crime bill but omits mention of the ban because leaders are afraid the politically explosive issue could sink their efforts to overhaul last year's \$30 billion crime package.

Whether the repeal is proposed sooner as part of the new crime bill or later as a separate measure, however, leaders said it would be hard to stop.

"I think that is inevitable," House Speaker Newt Gingrich, Representative of Georgia, said Wednesday of the repeal attempt. "Obviously, the president was sending out a signal that if that bill gets to his desk, he will veto it," he added. "It is very unlikely that we would stop such a bill from moving through the House."

Tanya K. Metaksa, chief lobbyist for the National Rifle Association, said Wednesday that there were several members of the

Judiciary Committee who "are talking about offering amendments" to the new crime bill to repeal the ban.

In addition, there are at least two dozen Democrats eager to push amendments to repeal the ban.

In a letter to Mr. Gingrich, 26 Democrats, led by Representative Bill Brewster of Oklahoma, warned that they intended "to use every parliamentary opportunity and procedure to repeal the ban" at the "first opportunity."

And the new crime bill presents just that opportunity.

Representative Henry J. Hyde, Republican of Illinois, who is chairman of the Judiciary Committee and who voted in favor of the ban last year, said the leadership wanted to keep the ban out of the new crime bill because it would transform the new crime bill "into a gun bill."

"The crime bill is headed for trouble anyway," said one Republican aide, adding that Mr. Clinton might veto it anyway because it cuts money for prevention programs that he favored. "If it has the gun ban in it, Clinton could win the public relations battle by calling it a gun bill."

House Begins Its Budget Balancing Act

By David E. Rosenbaum
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The House of Representatives has begun debating a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced federal budget, one of the most profound measures to come before Congress in years.

Set aside the claims and counterclaims about Democrats being profligate and Republicans wanting to destroy Social Security and bankrupt the states. Those are political side issues.

What is really at stake is a fundamental and ostensibly permanent change in the way the U.S. government works. Powerful arguments can be made for and against such a change. Here is an examination of three of the strongest arguments for such a constitutional amendment and the way opponents are rebutting them.

As a matter of principle, the government should have to live within its means just as states and cities and families do.

Until relatively recently, this was the dominant view of U.S. fiscal policy. Except during wartime, large federal deficits — the difference between what the government spends and what it receives in taxes and other revenues — were out of the question.

Proponents of the amendment often cite this quotation

from Harry Truman: "There is nothing sacred about the pay-as-you-go idea so far as I am concerned except that it represents the soundest principle of financing that I know."

Most economists agree that the huge deficits the government began running in the 1980s are dangerous to the future. Charles L. Schultze of the Brookings Institution compares the deficits to termites gnawing at the foundation of a building.

But many who feel most strongly about the need to reduce the deficit do not favor requiring that revenues match expenditures every year. Benjamin M. Friedman of Harvard says, "There is nothing magic about a balanced budget."

Ideally, they say, the budget would be in surplus in good times, and run manageable deficits when the economy was in recession.

In fact, states and cities and families do not always balance their budgets. State and local governments issue bonds to finance projects like turnpikes or sewer systems. Families take out mortgages on their homes and loans to pay college tuition. No one considers that financially irresponsible.

And no one, opponents of the amendment say, should consider it wrong for the federal government to go into debt periodically to make the country better for the next generation.

Without the discipline of a constitutional amendment, politicians will never take the steps necessary to reduce the deficit.

The problem is that the deficit cannot be reduced substantially simply by eliminating wasteful programs and cracking down on welfare cheats, as some conservatives seem to think, or by raising taxes on the wealthy and slashing spending at the Pentagon, as some liberals apparently believe.

The only way to get the government's finances under control is to enact measures that would be unappealing politically — so unpopular, in fact, that they could cost the politicians who support them their jobs.

A constitutional amendment might provide these politicians the political cover they need to cast courageous votes.

The argument on the other side is that the politicians will still face the hard choices about

raising taxes and cutting spending, and their votes will be no less unpopular because of a constitutional requirement.

The requirement that the budget be in balance would force the government to set priorities.

For years, politicians have acted like hungry people in a free buffet line. Rather than decide which dishes to take, they simply pile up their plates with everything.

Under the budget laws enacted in 1990 and 1993, priorities must be addressed when new programs are considered.

But nothing requires the government to strip programs and examine tax breaks already on the books. A balanced-budget amendment would require the president and Congress to review every program in the government and decide which ones to keep and which ones to discard.

POLITICAL NOTES

Clinton 'Cheap Shot' Draws Barbs

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton's legal defense fund has announced it will no longer accept contributions from registered lobbyists, a step that administration and fund officials have long resisted. The decision came after Republicans accused Mr. Clinton of being hypocritical when he called on members of Congress in his State of the Union speech Tuesday night to stop taking gifts from lobbyists.

In broadcast interviews Wednesday, Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, a Kansas Republican, called Mr. Clinton's challenge a "cheap shot," saying, "When we have lobbyists contributing to the president's legal defense fund, I think he'd be a little careful about bringing that up."

A few hours later, Vice President Al Gore announced that, in fact, Mr. Clinton planned to change his own policy. He said Mr. Clinton was acting "in compliance with the principle that gifts from lobbyists should not be accepted."

The Presidential Legal Expense Trust, which sources said has raised more than \$500,000, was set up last June to help defray the Clintons' legal expenses in the Whitewater investigation and the sexual-harassment lawsuit filed against the presi-

dent by a former Arkansas state employee, Paula Corbin Jones. (WP)

2 Star Democrats Shill a Snack

ALBANY, New York — Will Mario M. Cuomo, munching on a handful of Doritos, turn to Ann Richards and say: "Mmmm. These are so good, I think I'll eat them liberally."

The script remains a secret, but politicians and advertising executives said that the former governors of New York and Texas, both losers in their bids for re-election last year, will appear together in a commercial for Frito-Lay's Doritos corn chips that will be broadcast during the Super Bowl on Sunday.

In Texas and New York, rumors have circulated for weeks that the Democrats, once considered the inspirational stars of their party, had been reduced to hawking snacks. On Tuesday, sources said the rumor was true. Both Mr. Cuomo of New York and Ms. Richards of Texas were in California last weekend, presumably for filming. (NYT)

U.S. Mayors Raise Their Voices

WASHINGTON — About 240 mayors of American cities have assembled here to assert their role as

the public officials "closest to the people" and to insist that Mr. Clinton and the new Republican majority in Congress listen to their views on combating crime and curbing costly federal requirements on municipal budgets.

Participants in the annual meeting of the U.S. Conference of Mayors said the pressures generated by the Nov. 8 elections to reduce the size of the federal government and transfer many of its powers to states and cities should not become an excuse to dump new problems on cities without giving them the resources necessary for their solution.

"The changes in the political climate have made this the largest of the 63 meetings that we've had to date," said the conference president, Victor Ashe, who is the mayor of Knoxville, Tennessee. "The mayors are closest to the people," he said. "We're dealing with problems that come to the front doors of city hall first." (WP)

Quote/Unquote

Senator Fred Thompson, Republican of Tennessee, who just began his first term in the job, at the Washington Press Club's annual "Salute to Congress" roast: "I've still got a lot to learn about Washington. Why, yesterday I accidentally spent some of my own money." (AP)

U.S. and Vietnam Sign Accord on Opening Ties

The Associated Press

HANOI — The United States and Vietnam are to sign an agreement Saturday allowing them to establish diplomatic relations for the first time, a U.S. official said Thursday.

The former enemies will open liaison offices in each other's capitals almost immediately after the signing, the official said.

The agreement, to be signed in Hanoi, settles questions

about compensation for diplomatic properties seized at the end of the Vietnam War, in 1975. The planned signing underscores the warming trend in relations, which began to emerge two years ago after a diplomatic freeze.

Under the accord, Vietnam will return or compensate for 36 U.S. properties, including the former U.S. Embassy building in Saigon, which is now Ho Chi

Minh City. The United States will turn over the former South Vietnamese Embassy in Washington.

The two sides initiated the properties accord last month but postponed a formal signing until they resolved final details.

The agreement, once signed, will represent de facto diplomatic recognition, and the United States will take possession

of a building to house its liaison office at that time, the official said.

The U.S. office will handle consular, political and commercial functions and will probably serve as a transitional step toward the eventual exchange of ambassadors.

The State Department has assigned 11 diplomats to work in the office.

Away From Politics

• A man who allegedly threatened President Bill Clinton's life was arrested in Ogden, Utah, and a package believed to contain an explosive device was confiscated. David Shane Shelby, 29, was charged with threatening to kill Mr. Clinton and Vice President Al Gore in separate letters mailed to each on Dec. 7 from Bloomington, Indiana. (AP)

• An "America-First" policy that required teachers to instruct that American culture and values are superior to all others has been repealed by the newly elected school board in Tavares, Florida. (AP)

• Foster children won't be placed in the homes of known homosexuals, and gay people will be denied foster home licenses under a new policy in Nebraska. (AP)

• Virginia Military Institute's plan to set up a military-style program at a private women's college rather than admit women has been upheld by a U.S. appeals court in Richmond,

Virginia. But the court said the proposed leadership program for women at Mary Baldwin College must be modified to make it acceptable as an alternative to admitting women to VMI. (AP)

• The money that people are sending in to help prosecute Susan Smith, who admits drowning her two small sons, can be used by Union County, the South Carolina attorney general says. Officials had complained that the cost of the murder trial could bankrupt Union County. Donations to the prosecution total about \$955 so far. (AP)

• As part of a comprehensive salmon recovery blueprint, the National Marine Fisheries Service has proposed what it calls "major changes" in the way it operates the vast hydro-power system of the Columbia and Snake rivers in the Northwest. The plan calls for holding more water behind the upriver dams until the spring and summer, when young salmon need an increased flow of water to speed them out to the Pacific Ocean. (LAT)



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by Boutros Boutros-Ghali,
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Foes Meet in Riyadh As Yemenis Report Saudi Deployments

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
RIYADH — Yemeni and Saudi Arabian negotiators pursued talks in the Saudi capital Thursday in an effort to defuse a territorial crisis, diplomats said.

Yemeni political sources in San'a charged that Saudi Arabia was massing tanks, rocket launchers, warplanes and helicopters near the border and that Saudi troops were within three kilometers of it.

An officer in the Yemeni Army said: "Our troops are keeping their initial positions, with the normal numbers and without any reinforcements. But the Saudis are massing troops on the border for the third straight day."

At the center of the dispute are three provinces along the Saudi Arabia under a treaty signed in 1934. Yemen argues it expired in September 1992, but it has said it was willing to renegotiate the accord.

The Saudis have also deployed F-15 and F-16 warplanes and Apache attack helicopters from the Tabuk air base in the northwest to Khams-Mushayt and Jazan in the southwest, Yemeni political sources said. The Saudi troop movements took place near the Saada region of northwest Yemen and opposite the communities of Al Wadi and Al Shura, they said.

A Yemeni political source said the Saudi kingdom's military deployment was "a kind of

pressure on the Yemenis for them to make concessions" during the talks in Riyadh.

But Yemen's president, Ali Abdullah Saleh, had pledged that "even in case of Saudi aggression, Yemen will not respond."

The two sides have been less than friendly since San'a crushed a revolt by southern Yemenis unhappy with northern rule last year. The last several weeks have been marked by tension and minor clashes.

Yemeni and Saudi forces have clashed several times on the border, most recently on Jan. 10, when at least 40 Yemenis and 14 Saudis were killed, according to a Western diplomat.

Neither diplomats nor other sources in Yemen had previously announced a casualty toll.

(Reuters)



A HARD AND DISPUTED LAND — Elderly Palestinian Bedouin begging an Israeli soldier Thursday to stop Jewish settlers from enlarging the Maale Amos settlement, south of Bethlehem, onto land the Palestinians claim as their own.

If Assets Freeze Stops Terror, Why Did U.S. Wait?

By Elaine Sciolino
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton's order to help curb terrorism by freezing the U.S. assets of 30 Arab and Israeli groups and individuals raises two basic questions: Will it work, and if it is such a good tool, why wasn't it ever tried before?

The executive order, signed by Mr. Clinton on Monday night and highlighted in his State of the Union speech on Tuesday night, is intended to prevent terrorist groups and individuals or their supporters in the United States from using the American banking system or raising money to finance terrorist acts.

But administration officials acknowledge that they do not know whether any of the 500 banks and financial institutions ordered by Mr. Clinton to take action will find any assets to seize and that they do not have proof that all of the people and groups on their list have used the United States to raise or transfer money.

"I don't anticipate seizing any large sums of money," said a Treasury Department official involved in the initiative.

Similarly, experts on terrorism outside the administration are puzzled by

NEWS ANALYSIS

the timing and the chance for success of the new anti-terrorism campaign.

"I wondered why — other than terrible bombings in Israel — brought the terrorism issue to such prominence in the State of the Union speech," said Philip Heyman, a deputy attorney general early in the Clinton administration and a professor at Harvard Law School who frequently teaches about terrorism. "And I wondered why, if we knew there were assets in the United States and where they were, we hadn't seized them long ago."

The idea of freezing assets of terrorist groups or their supporters is not new. It was considered and rejected by the Rea-

gan and Bush administrations, when militant groups were holding Americans hostage in Lebanon and American citizens and installations were the regular target of terrorist attacks.

In the mid-1980s, for example, the State Department began an initiative to try to curb financing from the United States to both the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Irish Republican Army. It went nowhere.

"One of the problems we faced when we tried this 10 years ago is that the money always seemed to go to widows and orphans and stopping that money can be challenged in court," said David Long, who wrote a book on terrorism and served in the State Department's counterterrorism office.

But Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher has made the fight against terrorism a linchpin of U.S. foreign policy, and has searched for creative ways —

however farfetched — to make it happen.

For more than a year the FBI has closely monitored supporters of the Palestinian terrorist group Hamas in several cities, including Chicago, Dallas, Detroit, Los Angeles and Washington.

Although the bulk of financial aid for Hamas comes from the Gulf states, particularly Saudi Arabia, some administration officials estimate that as much as 30 percent of the organization's funds pass through or are raised in the United States. A few weeks ago, Israel sentenced Mohammed Salah, a used-car salesman from Bridgeview, Illinois, to five years in prison for carrying orders as well as thousands of dollars to Hamas leaders in Israel and the occupied territories in 1993.

Administration officials admit that some of the targets may seem remote. The only common factor is that they are all using or are threatening to use violence to block peace between Israel and the Palestinians.

Jakarta Executes Malaysian

Agence France-Press

JAKARTA — Indonesian judicial authorities have carried out their first execution of a convicted drug offender, Chan Ting Chong, 38, a Malaysian sentenced to death in 1985 by an Indonesian court, the new Tiras magazine said.

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Auschwitz Remembrance

At its worst, this has been Satan's century. In no previous age have people shown so great an aptitude, and appetite, for killing millions of other people for reasons of race, religion or class. Nowhere else was this more grimly borne out than at the Auschwitz death camp, whose existence became universally known 50 years ago.

Initially, even its Red Army liberators could scarcely credit what they came upon in southern Poland — slave laborers thin as matchsticks, children chewed up in demented laboratory experiments, and the remains of four gas chambers and crematorium ovens that once claimed 20,000 victims a day. The images of Auschwitz are seared in memory: the bodies heaped like kindling, the 43,000 pairs of shoes, the piles of human hair.

So horrific was this death factory and what it signified that it was soon entwined with myth and politics. A museum was established at the site in 1947, only to become the focus of impassioned arguments. Under Poland's Communist regime the number of victims was inflated to 4 million and their overwhelmingly Jewish identity minimized, thereby providing fodder for Holocaust deniers.

To this day, Auschwitz defies sense and comprehension. What began in 1940 as a German concentration camp for

some 700 Polish prisoners swiftly expanded into a vast slave-labor complex including a killing field. Within months after the 1942 Wannsee Conference in Berlin, at which Nazi chieftains worked out the "Final Solution," the first convoy of Dutch Jews arrived at Auschwitz. By 1945, 1.1 million to 1.5 million people had died there and at the adjacent Birkenau camp, of whom 90 percent were Jews. Some 150,000 non-Jewish Poles were dispatched to Auschwitz, of whom half were killed — along with 20,000 Gypsies, 15,000 Soviet prisoners of war, and 25,000 people of other nationalities.

That the killings continued even to the last moment darkens the blot on Germany's reputation. Yet it is also a matter of record that even when the Americans and British learned what was happening at Auschwitz, senior officials rejected pleas to bomb the death camp and its rail approaches, a failure of imagination that today seems incomprehensible.

The only preventive for a repetition of Auschwitz is remembrance. That is why the Polish government was so wrong in its initial decision to prevent the recitation of the Jewish prayer for the dead at commemorative ceremonies, and why Elie Wiesel and others were so right to insist on its inclusion.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES



Europe Has One Leg to Stand On

By William Pfaff

PARIS — It is time to take seriously the U.S. Congress's determination to unilaterally lift the arms embargo on Bosnia. President Bill Clinton says he would veto legislation to that effect, but whether this veto could be sustained cannot now be said.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher told a Harvard audience Jan. 20 that lifting the embargo would "Americanize the conflict." This is not true unless the United States intends itself to arm, train or support the Bosnian government's forces, which is not Congress's intention. Congress does not want America in the war. The Republican majority and a part of the Democratic minority want to make a moral gesture toward those seen as the unjustly penalized victims of this war.

Paris and London reply that if the Bosnians are freed to arm themselves, the United Nations Protection Force will leave and the Bosnians will be overrun by their Serbian enemies. This assessment is probably correct. It also is true that the Bosnian government has for months allowed itself to believe that the United States will come to its rescue.

Senator Bob Dole and his allies owe it to the Bosnian people and government to be unmistakably clear on this point. The United States will not enter the war.

The European governments believe Congress is being reckless. It is, but it is not being unreasonable. The Europeans argue that it is better to continue with today's stalemate — the endless negotiations and concessions — because these may eventually end in peace of a kind, with the victims more or less exhausted, the aggressors more or less satisfied. The misery will be less than the misery of war.

The Americans who want the arms embargo lifted reply that if the Bosnians really want to fight to recover what they have lost, and are prepared for further sacrifices, why should the international community stop them?

If this produces renewed suffering for the Serbs of Bosnia, that too is their free choice. They have the option of signing the settlement "contact group" has negotiated and which the Bosnian government has accepted.

The principle is one posed ever since the war began. To what extent is the international community justified in actively preventing people from taking the consequences of their own actions? The international intervention in the ex-Yugoslavia has failed to prevent crimes and aggression. The UN has saved the lives of thousands of people and made life endurable for many more. But compared to what?

Who can say that a quick and brutal partition of the country, as might have happened in the absence of intervention, might not have caused less suffering than three and a half years of a war that still goes on?

International intervention seemed the right thing at the time. Had the European intervention possessed a coherent aim and resolute execution, it might have stopped the war at the start. But those qualities were absent.

I have from the beginning argued that Yugoslavia is primarily a European responsibility, as the war is a threat to European order. Europe undertook the responsibility of intervening, however disastrous the outcome has been, while the United States stood aside. Today, it seems to me that the judgment of the European governments on the embargo has to be accepted.

I would be happier with that conclusion if I were convinced that the Europeans were right or that next time things would be different. What this affair has shown is that without U.S. leadership, Europe is collectively incapable of united, resolute policy and action. The reason lies in the nature of Europe. Twelve nations, or 15, or more, cannot act as one. One nation must take on itself the responsibility to act, and let others follow.

Nothing can change that.

International Herald Tribune
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The 38th Parallel Face-Off

The armies mustered along the 38th parallel dividing North and South Korea are a dangerously volatile legacy of the Cold War. Now that a nuclear agreement has been reached with North Korea and the North is living up to its end of the bargain, the United States and the two Koreas need to discuss ways to step back from military confrontation.

The sheer size of the forces arrayed on both sides — a million in the North, 750,000 in the South, including 37,000 Americans — is dangerous enough. Their concentration along the 38th parallel raises the risk of impulsive reaction in tense times. These risks can be eased by force reductions and measures to build confidence on both sides, such as limiting the size of military exercises, providing advance notification of any troop movements and establishing a hot line between military commands.

The North's missile programs are also a source of instability, both on the Korean Peninsula and beyond, and need to be addressed. The North is developing a missile capable of reaching Japan and has tried to market its short-range missiles. It must abandon those efforts as part of an attempt to resolve outstanding issues.

North Korea has already proposed troop cuts of 100,000 per side. That would ease the strain on the North's economy, but it might do little to promote stability unless it involved thinning out forces along the North-South dividing

line, including tanks, armored vehicles and artillery. The North also wants a peace treaty, formally ending the state of war that has existed since 1950. Steps to ease the military confrontation would be a useful prelude to such an accord.

Pyeongyang should not assume that Washington speaks for Seoul on these matters. Consider, for instance, the Pentagon's inability to get South Korea to buy appropriate defenses, like radars that can pinpoint and neutralize North Korea's artillery, or night-vision gear for its helicopters. Instead the South is building ships for a defense against Japan it does not need.

Seoul bears its share of the blame for letting talks with Pyongyang lapse. It failed to offer condolences on the death of Kim Il Sung and went out of its way to question the legitimacy of his successor. The North reacted with a propaganda barrage of its own and put off North-South talks. Now Seoul is looking for ways to turn down the propaganda volume and resume talks.

Pyeongyang has preferred to deal with Washington, but steps to defuse the military confrontation cannot be negotiated by the United States and North Korea alone. South Korea must be directly involved. All sides should move now. Last month's downing of a U.S. helicopter that strayed into North Korea's airspace showed how easily shooting can begin.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES

Mideast: Too Much Is at Stake to Hunker Down Now

By Flora Lewis

PARIS — The famous Washington handshake a year and a half ago sealed only a Declaration of Principles between Yitzhak Rabin, prime minister of Israel, and Yasser Arafat, representing the Palestine Liberation Organization. Peace is not yet at hand.

In fact, the painfully slow "peace process" can be said, as some Israelis have done, to have provoked more terrorism and more deaths, as extremists try to blow it up and Israeli security exercises more "muscular" interrogation of prisoners (read torture) to catch terrorist organizers.

Mr. Rabin was right to insist, despite loud Israeli clamor, that he would not cede victory to the perpetrators by calling off negotiations with the PLO. But President Ezer Weizman also deserves a hearing when he calls for a suspension of the stalled talks while "we rethink which way we are going."

His intervention was startling. Mr. Weizman played a key role in the Israeli-Egyptian settlement and has long been an ardent advocate of peace with the Arabs, including Palestinians. "Ezer lost his head," anonymous Israeli officials were quoted as saying.

The trouble is that the Principles are based on ambiguity, fudging and postponing all the hard issues, on the theory that Israelis and Palestinians need time to get used to the idea of co-existence and to build trust.

It isn't working that way. Time is strengthening those on both sides who are convinced that force is the only answer.

Each mass-terror attack deepens the emotional shock and distress of Israelis as they

contemplate the risk of the concessions Palestinians need to regain faith in the "peace process." There isn't enough consensus on either side to provide a firm base for what the cautious negotiators might achieve.

Sealing off both the autonomous regions and the West Bank again, Mr. Rabin has reached the conclusion that only "separation" of the two peoples can bring safety. This is at the cost of devastating what little there is of a sustaining economy for the Palestinians, who need the work Israel offers, as well as a relatively minor loss for Israeli employers. It only makes things worse.

Yet Nabil Shaath, the chief Palestinian negotiator, has said that separation is acceptable if it comes with a Palestinian state.

This is the crux of the issue. The "peace process," as now conducted, skirts the key questions — Palestinian independence, Jewish settlements and Jerusalem. They cannot be avoided much longer. But neither can they be somehow anesthetized while the principals haggle over the interim. Each step, however small, is evaluated by how it will influence the ultimate decision.

It is time to drop the euphemism and the side-stepping, and face the real issues. When Mr. Rabin speaks of "separation," it is enough of an implication of a Palestinian state to infuriate Israeli opponents, but not enough to hearthen those Palestinians who do want peace.

To recapture the promise of the handshake

this much later, the courage of candor has become essential. Everyone involved knows what has been set aside, and everyone knows that eventually it will have to be confronted either with compromise or resignation to years more of bloody hostility and frustration.

No doubt this is what Mr. Weizman means when he asks Israel to "rethink where we are going." It is still true, as Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said in explaining the underpinning for the Oslo agreement, that Israel is not strong enough to impose the peace it wants, and too strong to be defeated. The consequences have to be more impasse, or compromise, and he accepted that logic.

But it has not yet been clearly put, either to the Israeli public or to the Palestinians. Understandably, that isn't easy for the politicians who are responsible, all the less for a democratically elected leader such as Mr. Rabin with a fragile hold on power. Still, it must be done if the hope for peace is to retain enough vitality to flourish.

The United States has been wary and timid, supporting Israel but not accepting the risk of challenging the dangerous ambiguities. It could be clearer, at the least openly pressing the partner-antagonists in the peace process to shed the pretenses veiling the dilemma.

Mr. Rabin is said to be considering skipping the badly functioning search for an interim solution and moving on to the negotiations on final status provided for in the 1993 accord. He should be encouraged. There is too much at stake to hunker down and mark time.

© Flora Lewis

Veering Back and Forth

In the State of the Union address Tuesday night, President Bill Clinton was plainly trying to preempt and co-opt the successful Republican political message of last fall. You had the feeling that a lot of positioning had gone on, and this always raises suspicions as to substance and sincerity. On some of his moves toward what he believes to be the political outlook the American voters mandated, Mr. Clinton, it seems to us, moved toward common sense and away from misguided policy. But there was a good deal of veering back and forth. He alternately suggested he agreed with the Republicans on many things and sought to reassure Democrats that there were also matters on which he would stand firm.

Occasionally he was forthright, as when he warned he would block repeal of last year's ban on the manufacture and sale of assault weapons. He was clear as well on some essential aspects of welfare reform and on the fact that tax cuts ought not add to the deficit. He was also right to stress the themes of personal and civic responsibility and the importance of institutions outside government — the community groups that "do the work of citizenship" — in determining national well-being.

But on too many other issues, he chose to speak obliquely and in code. The administration has claimed to think the balanced-budget amendment to the constitution on which the House is voting this week could have disastrous consequences; but the president would say only that the proponents owe the public an explanation of how the balance would be achieved. Administration officials likewise think the unfunded mandates legislation on which both houses are at work could have grave consequences if carried too far, but the president said

only that he wanted to work with Congress to "pass a reasonable bill which will protect the national interest [yet] give justified relief." The administration believes that some of the deregulatory legislation in Congress also goes too far; he dealt with that by saying that Congress should "remember what national action in the national interest has given us" in the form of cleaner water and air, safer food and cars and all the rest.

As a tactical matter it is fair enough, maybe even wise, for a president whose party has just taken a beating at the polls to try to blur his differences with the opposition. Mr. Clinton's problem is that in the last two years, he has done more than just blur differences for tactical reasons. He has a history both of trying too hard to please and of folding.

Yes, the president has taken risks — for deficit reduction, gun control and, after much waffling, NAFTA. But there are doubts, and this speech did not dispel them, about how long the president's positions will stand. He would have done himself some good had he said just once in the course of wrapping himself in Republican themes, here is where the other side is wrong. He never quite did it.

Defenders argue that the speech did serve the important purpose of putting the president back into the argument. By accepting some of the opposition's themes while seeking to modulate and bend them, he suggested the Republicans might be right about some things and made himself a player in a way he otherwise could not hope to be. The question is, a player to what end? How hard is he going to fight, and for what? Eighty-two minutes of speech, and you still don't know.

— THE WASHINGTON POST

A Pause in the Process, Not Panicky Self-Destruction

By William Safire

LONDON — The reaction of peace processors in Jerusalem and Washington to the Beit Lid massacre, in which Islamic suicide bombers wiped out a score of Israelis, has been shock, anger, sorrow — but a determination that terrorist attacks not be allowed to stop the peace process.

That is based on this widely held premise: Because extremists do not want negotiations to succeed, it follows that the way to foil their tactics is to press on with negotiations no matter what atrocities they perpetrate.

In that way, goes the logic, moderate Palestinians (who profess to want only the West Bank and East Jerusalem) will triumph, and extremist Palestinians (who demand no less than the destruction of the Zionist entity) will be defeated.

The questions now being asked are these: What if conventional wisdom is wrong? What if the negotiating Arab is not in control of the Arab body politic? What if Israel's hopes are less realistic than its fears?

For a time, Israeli optimists

held such a moderate-extremist Arab theory.

To them, the *intifada* — the uprising of young, local Palestinian Arabs — was a blessing in disguise. It asserted the power of Arabs living in the area in contrast to the power of the millions of displaced Palestinians headquartered in Tunis.

Most *intifada* leaders of a new generation, although loyal to the legendary Yasser Arafat, wanted nationhood in the disputed West Bank, where they lived; but most of the overseas Palestinians dreamed of their "right of return" to homes along Israel's coast.

Israelis hoped that the younger local leadership would gain control, and years ago some even thought that Hamas might be the answer to the older PLO rigidity. But after the Labor government won its election, Shimon Peres chose to deal secretly in Oslo with the interlocutors he knew best: the overseas Palestinians.

The outsiders are in command. Gaza was infiltrated by the Islam-

ic Jihad; Iran's Hezbollah is protected in Syria-controlled Lebanon; Hamas was long ago radicalized; suicide bombers are being indoctrinated by the Jihad outside Damascus. Smart Palestinian clans dispersed sons to these factions as well as the PLO.

A decade ago, a Fatah opponent of Mr. Arafat, Hani Hassan, said, "The armed struggle will plant the seeds, and the political struggle will reap the harvest."

His prediction is coming true: today's violence is triggering calls in Israel for "separation," which means more than a fence around Gaza. To Arabs, it means pushing Israeli settlers out of the West Bank and suburbs of Jerusalem — for a start.

That is why it is a self-delusion to think that new restrictions on settlements, or a turnover of the whole West Bank to PLO rule, will bring an end to violence or satisfy Palestinian demands.

The ultimate deal that is made with the negotiating Palestinians is only Phase One of the goal of too

many others. These violent others are not to be dismissed as fanatics; they are the deniable shock troops in the Arab war of attrition.

That is why many Israelis now believe it is not enough for Israel to close its border with Gaza again, or to squeeze a grudging condemnation and some token arrests out of Mr. Arafat, or to stage some hot-pursuit military vengeance across borders.

Israelis who want a pause in the process are not "giving the terrorists what they want." On the contrary, they know that panicky amputation of the West Bank would give Arabs part of what they seek.

Here is the sort of process they want a breather to produce:

- Demonstration by Mr. Arafat of his ability to assert political authority in Gaza and key towns in the West Bank. That means effective suppression of terrorism.
- Renunciation by the PLO of the inflammatory items in its covenant demanding Israel's destruction. That change was promised by Mr. Arafat in Oslo and never delivered.
- Expulsion by Syria of the leading terrorists and a closing of Iranian training sites near Damascus and under Syrian control in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

Such measures are needed to build trust. They would curb violence better than any bloody retaliation or new territorial concession. Without them, Israel will be engaged in the self-destruction process.

The New York Times

Escape This Arms Control Trap Now

By McGeorge Bundy

NEW YORK — The United States has set a trap for itself on nuclear arms control.

Two major agreements are now in prospect. One is the conclusion of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. The other is the permanent extension of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty of 1970. It is the cornerstone of an international regime that has had unexpected success.

But the Clinton administration has adopted a position on the test ban treaty that threatens to undo the permanent extension of the nonproliferation treaty. Fortunately there is time for a change of position. The crucial debate will come when the conference on extending the nonproliferation treaty opens in April.

Last August in Geneva, U.S. officials proposed a new rule for the test ban treaty that would allow any state to withdraw for any reason after 10 years. This is just the sort of easy-exit clause that the United States rightly opposes in the case of the nonproliferation treaty. What this new U.S. proposal suggests is that nuclear-weapons states should have treaty rights they do not allow to non-nuclear states.

What connects this new U.S.

position to the still uncertain debate over the nonproliferation treaty is that the most tangled question in that debate is about the length of any renewal of the treaty. When the nonproliferation treaty was first negotiated, there was a deep difference on its duration that was resolved by a compromise: Let the treaty run for 25 years and then let a majority decide for how long to renew it. The time for choice has come.

The United States wants an unlimited extension, and so do most of its northern friends. But many others, led by a "non-aligned group," want a shorter extension so that they can hold the treaty hostage from time to time to advance whatever new positions they may favor.

The Americans did not consult all these countries when they proposed a new escape hatch in the comprehensive test ban for nuclear testing. The American insistence on a 10-year exit clause for the test ban treaty — seemingly the work of technical enthusiasts rather than sound policy makers — is now gravely damaging the cam-

paign of Americans and others for unlimited extension of the nonproliferation treaty.

The 10-year exit clause is unnecessary. The draft treaty already has the usual clause allowing escape when a country decides that its "supreme interests" require it. Any president ready to take so grave a step as a renewal of nuclear testing would surely be ready to use that clause. That means there is simply no currently persuasive technical case for a new 10-year exit clause.

Remarkably, the administration's switch of last August has not yet stirred much political attention outside the arms control community. So there is still time for the administration to straighten things out.

If Mr. Clinton acts now, he will simply be setting straight a small but important point. When the noise level goes up in the spring, that will not be so easy.

The writer, national security adviser in the Kennedy and Johnson administrations, is scholar in residence at the Carnegie Corporation of New York. He contributed this comment to The Washington Post.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1895: Nuns' Rebellion

PARIS — There is something delightfully romantic about the idea of rebellion in a convent. In Udine, a town of North Italy, the idea has lately been realized. The nuns even seized the abbess and locked her up in her cell, whence, after her flock had consumed much of the old ale and old wine of the convent, she was rescued by the bishop. In an official report of the riot, she attributed it, first, to the direct agency of the Evil One, and secondly, to the fact that the convent had been short of fuel during the late cold weather.

out at night and enjoy yourself. I did it." The Magistrate: "If every American who comes to England acts in the same way, we shall bless them." The man was allowed to go, on promising that he would not again indulge too much in the delights of this little oasis of England.

1945: Colorful Business

PARIS — [The Herald says in an editorial:] In China, white is the mourning color; red is the color of joy and happiness. Despite this — before the war — American-made goods continued to reach China wrapped in white paper, whereas German packages were of firecracker red. And no amount of arguing with the Americans could make them change their ways — make them see red! The good old American feeling of self-confidence! — but not good business.

1920: 'This Little Oasis'

LONDON — Asked why he got drunk, an American Naval officer charged at the Thames street police court, said: "Well, the States has gone dry, and this is some country, where you can get

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OPINION

A Self-Indulgent Address That Did Not Set a Course

By David S. Broder

WASHINGTON — If self-discipline is the requisite of leadership — and it is — then Bill Clinton's State of the Union address dramatized his failure. It was a speech about everything, and therefore about nothing. It was a huge missed opportunity — and one he will regret.

Coming into Tuesday night, the president had three tasks: to acknowledge the 1994 election results and offer a credible pledge of bipartisan cooperation with the new Republican Congress; to define, for the doubt-ridden Democrats, the ground he would defend against Republican assault; and to reassert his command of the office he holds and give a direction to the last half of his term.

He did the first passably well; the second, badly; and the third, not at all. It was the third challenge — communicating the sense of focused, disciplined leadership — that was most important of all. And he blew it.

Admittedly, that was a tough setting. The president faced, with Speaker Newt Gingrich, Republican of Georgia, looking over his shoulder and several would-be 1996 opponents measuring him for defeat from their seats in the chamber.

But Mr. Clinton got past the awkwardness in the opening moments and made a persuasive case for bipartisanship. He skirted an embarrassing acknowledgment of political repudiation and sensibly delineated what we all know: the eras of the New Deal and the Cold War are over and new times demand new policies.

The language he used to describe those policies was Republican-flavored. But the promise to "cut yesterday's government to solve tomorrow's problems" is what people want to hear — and what is needed.

The second task, which was the subject of the speech's long second section, was to assure Democratic constituencies that he would fight for their causes. This is vitally important. Mr. Clinton's main political goal for 1995 is to discourage any well-known Democratic primary opponent from undercutting him, as liberal challengers did to Lyndon Johnson and Jimmy Carter.

He might easily withstand and perhaps even profit from a challenge from Jesse Jackson or Jerry Brown. But he does not want Richard Gephardt or anyone else of that stature running in the Democratic primaries. If he can keep other Democrats from even getting that idea in their heads throughout 1995, then he will have all of 1996 to position himself against the Republican nominee. Moving far

enough left to discourage a primary challenge without losing the vital middle ground is tricky. The way to have done it, rhetorically, would have been to make clear the principles important to the Democratic Party — fairness and social justice, especially — for which he will fight.

But Mr. Clinton chose to talk programs, not principles, and so it became a lengthy catalog of constituency-defined entitlements, the essence of old politics: Social Security and Medicare for seniors, Head Start, school lunches and infant-feeding programs for the young; pensions for veterans; cleanups for environmentalists; job-training for the unemployed; income protection for the deserving poor; tax cuts for middle-class families; government loans for college students; expanded health care for the uninsured; a higher minimum-wage for workers; a continuation of the ban on assault weapons — and probably several other things my mind was too numbed to note. Vice President Al Gore led the ritual boot-up-and-down for each item on the Democratic interest groups' checklist, and the whole performance took on the aspect of kowtowing.

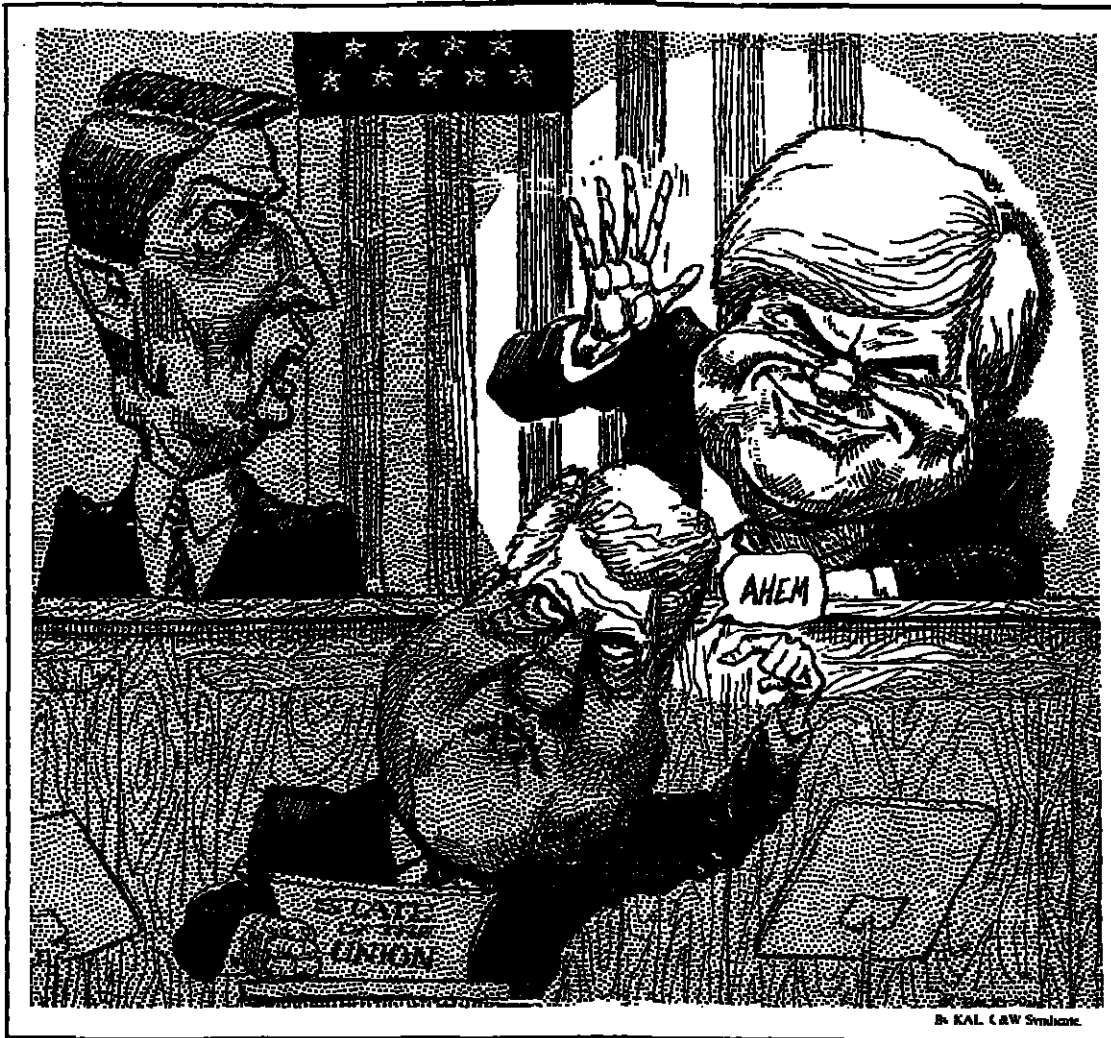
That left little time — and less plausibility — for the evening's most important work, communicating a sense of conviction and a clear agenda. By this stage, the message was a jumble. Nothing linked the Mexican loan guarantee mentioned at 10:20 P.M. with the challenge to Congress to end lobbyist gifts that he was talking about an hour earlier.

Before the speech, I had interviewed a couple dozen Democratic officials. What they wanted desperately from Mr. Clinton was what one former White House aide said in a three-word Yiddish phrase that translates: Be a man. Instead, he was again — at just the wrong moment — the loquacious, self-centered youth who somehow slipped into the Oval Office, all charm and "aw shucks" humility one moment, full of braggadocio the next, seeking approval rather than setting a course.

It reminded me of the description of a lobbyist friend once gave of a prominent and notably long-winded liberal senator. You learned, the lobbyist said, that "the meeting began whenever the senator came through the door and the subject was whatever was on his mind."

It was disquieting to watch a president behave that way. And it was mind-boggling to see him squander a unique opportunity in such a self-indulgent fashion.

The Washington Post



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Future of the UN

As permanent representative for Britain with the World Meteorological Organization, one of the United Nations specialized agencies, I was pleased to read the article by Jessica Matthews ("Get Serious About the United Nations' Next 50 Years," Jan. 18) about the achievements of the United Nations and the possibilities for its future.

The UN agencies, working together and with nongovernmental organizations (particularly, in our case, the International Council of Scientific Unions), have played an essential part in great improvements in monitoring and predicting weather and climate, including such natural disasters as tropical cyclones, drought and flooding. The UN agencies have also helped ensure the wide application of these technological developments to the benefit of agriculture, aviation, sustainable development and capacity building in developing countries.

The writer mentioned steps being proposed to improve the management and effectiveness of the United Nations and its agencies. From my perspective, representatives in the specialized agencies are already beginning to introduce modern managerial methods, for example by targeting and reporting on outputs and objective achievements rather than just inputs, and by external evaluation of programs. At the same time, those agencies are encouraging the greater involvement of the private sector through expertise, co-funding and joint programs.

Regarding the report "A World Class Challenge" (Jan. 4) and "The UN and its Staff" (Letters, Jan. 30):

The figures quoted in discussing the number of people the United Nations now employs in relation to increased UN responsibilities, such as in peacekeeping, would perhaps be more meaningful if other relevant factors were taken into consideration. These include the number and cost of consultants and former UN staff at various levels pensioned and rehired on short-term or special-contract basis but not now reflected in UN staff listings.

Also very relevant is the fact that logistics and support work in peacekeeping missions previously handled by UN staff is now contracted out to commercial firms. The personnel thus involved are therefore not now UN paid staff and the substantial costs of these commercial contracts for UN operations such as Somalia and Bosnia are reflected elsewhere in the rising UN budget.

J. C. R. HUNT, Chief Executive, The Meteorological Office, Bracknell, England.

A Baby Called 'Fatherless' By a Law Already Obsolete

By Ellen Goodman

BOSTON — The lawmakers of Louisiana never planned for the parentage of Judith Hart. When they wrote the laws of legitimacy, any child born to a widow a year after her husband's death would have been cause for scandal, not for celebration.

But technology has raced ahead of their law. Today when men can de-

posit their sperm for safekeeping in a bank before they go off to war or to do battle against illness, Judith Hart's origins do not seem so strange.

In 1990, when Ed Hart was diagnosed with cancer of the esophagus, he had every wish to live. Before he began the chemotherapy that would leave him sterile, he put his and his wife's hopes for children in a sperm bank in New Orleans.

To this day, Nancy Hart can remember the exact moment, the exact bend in the highway, when her husband talked about what to do if he didn't survive. He said, "There will always be a child for you."

When this widow teacher became pregnant and Judith was born, Nancy felt as if she had cheated death. "I have always thought that death was so final," she said, "there are no deals to be made, you can't fix it. This time I thought, well, death scored one point and we scored one too."

It never occurred to this mother that the state would consider her baby illegitimate. After all, Ed Hart's sperm was the genetic inheritance he left to his wife. Judith was both the legacy and the heir.

But the state declared her fatherless and therefore the Social Security Administration turned down her application for survivor's benefits of \$700 a month. The genes said yes, but the state said no. Judith wasn't Ed's baby. And so Nancy Hart has filed a suit challenging the laws that deny Judith the right to be her father's legal child and heir. Nancy has done it more for the name than for the money. With the aid of the Center for Reproductive Law and Policy, she has begun a landmark suit to proclaim the legitimacy of a child conceived after her father's death.

I confess that I have had feelings — stirred, if not exactly mixed — about deliberately reproducing children whose only contact with their parent is through the genes. I was appalled when a California man, William Everett Kane, left 15 vials of frozen sperm to his girlfriend before he committed suicide. I was outraged when 14 San Quentin inmates on death row sued to have

their sperm preserved for insemination with willing women.

There is an obsession these days with genes, eggs, sperm, with nature rather than nurture. The vision of a genetic legacy of sperm frozen in some bank is unsettling. In Italy, a baby was born this month with the egg of her dead mother, the sperm of her father and the womb of her father's sister.

In many ways, we should discourage the idea of building a future from the grave. Discourage those who would achieve genetic immortality by leaving their reproductive tissue behind. An egg or a vial of sperm may seem like a gift to one surviving partner and feel like a moral obligation, even a burden, to another.

At the same time, I understand the human impulse to "cheat death." I understand why some soldiers who went off to the Gulf War left could-be children behind. And I surely understand why a cancer patient, hoping for recovery after treatment that leaves him sterile, would bank away his future.

But in this complex, emotional and ethical world of reproductive technology, the story of the Harts is a relatively simple one. In Nancy Hart's words, "All I know is that I had a loving relationship with a husband. We were married. We wanted children. He had the audacity to die."

If Ed Hart had gone into remission, if Nancy had been inseminated with the sperm while he was alive, no state would question the daughter's status. The baby would be his survivor.

Instead we have biology telling us one thing and the law another. By every genetic measure, by every DNA yardstick, Judith Hart is her father's biological child. Only in the eyes of the law is she the illegitimate child of an unwed mother.

When the law gets this far out of touch with reality, it's the law that has to change. It must change now in sync with the new generation of biological issues. That new generation comes with a startling name tag: Judith Hart, Child of a Post-Mortem Conception.

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BOOKS

GROWING UP WITH A SINGLE PARENT: What Hurts, What Helps

By Sara McLanahan and Gary Sandefur. 196 pages. \$19.95. Harvard.

TIES THAT STRESS: Family Imbalance

By David Elkind. The New Family Imbalance. 260 pages. \$19.95. Harvard.

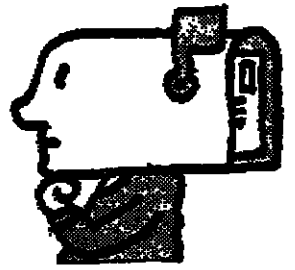
Reviewed by Douglas J. Besharov

NO one doubts that the American family is under assault. About 40 percent of marriages end in divorce, about a third of all babies are born out of wedlock. As a result, say the experts, about half of all American children will spend at least some time in a single-parent home before they are 18.

America's children pay a steep price for family breakdown, as Sara McLanahan and Gary Sandefur document in "Growing Up With a Single Parent." Based on analysis of data from various national surveys, the two professors of sociology show that "children who grow up in a household with only one biological

WHAT THEY'RE READING

• Siegfried Guterman, deputy spokesman at Deutsche Bank AG, is reading "Sofies verden" the German translation of "Sophie's World" by the Norwegian author Jostein Gaarder. "Someone sends a 15-year-old girl unsigned letters asking existential questions, and the result is a complex suspense novel containing the entire history of philosophy." (Brandon Mitchener, IHT)



content, though, this book is addressed to the general reader much like another of Elkind's books, "The Hurried Child."

At all levels of our society, Elkind says, many parents now place their "need for self-realization and self-fulfillment" before the needs of the family as a unit. They invest less of themselves in their children — even though they may spend more money on them.

Divorce and out-of-wedlock births are, to Elkind, simply at one end of a continuum of contemporary parental lifestyle choices that serve the needs of parents rather than those of children. It was, after all, not so many years ago, that many parents in unhappy marriages stayed together "for the sake of the children" and many young couples felt obliged to marry if the woman became pregnant.

Each of these books seeks to answer the same question: What should we do as traditional family structures seem to be crumbling? McLanahan and Sandefur seem to think that the process is irreversible and that the government, through increased economic support for low-income families, must step in to minimize harm to children. Elkind thinks the solution lies with a change in parental behavior. He sees contemporary families "stumbling" toward a new balance between the needs of children and the needs of parents, one that integrates the mutual responsibility of the traditional family with the freedoms of the contemporary family.

Douglas J. Besharov, a resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute and a visiting professor at the University of Maryland, wrote this for The Washington Post.

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

IN the diagrammed deal South bid optimistically to six hearts. He knew that his Blackwood bid was dubious, in view of the club weakness, but was training for a good result.

East was right in thinking that he could defeat six hearts, but his double was poor. It was likely that the second round of clubs

Neither side was vulnerable. The bidding:

West: 1♥ North: 2♦ East: 3♦ South: 4♥

West: 3♥ North: 3♥ East: 4♥ South: 4♥

West: 5♦ North: 5♦ East: 6♥ South: 6♥

West: 6♥ North: 6♥ East: 6♥ South: 6♥

West: 6♥ North: 6♥ East: 6♥ South: 6♥

West: 6♥ North: 6♥ East: 6♥ South: 6♥

West led the diamond four. When a spade was led to the king, East reluctantly gave up the club king. South cashed the diamond ace and led a club. East had to win and lead a diamond, and the finesse of the ten made the doubled slam.

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Sweden (crown)	48,000	34	26,500	
Switzerland S.Fr.	55,000	26	27,500	
Switzerland S.Fr.	3,100	34	1,700	
Switzerland S.Fr.	3,500	26	1,900	
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Beijing to Moscow: Across Wide Open Spaces by Train

By Diana Bird

MOSCOW — From mid-June into July, my husband and I traveled with a tour, meeting in Beijing to board a train at the Great Wall. We went north to Mongolia, where we trained the so-called Nostalgic Istanbul Orient Express to be taken through Siberia to Moscow — accompanied by lecturers in a variety of disciplines and tour officials who planned our visits along the way and eased the hazards of international travel.

China, Mongolia and Russia all claim land that is so inhospitable that few people can be supported upon it and few can be persuaded to inhabit it. The Gobi Desert, which we crossed in China and Mongolia is that sort of land, as is much of Siberia.

The Chinese train that we boarded at the Great Wall stopped at the Mongolian border for us to change to the Orient Express at Erian. A number of police and military personnel were about, and the other inhabitants often looked dark and tough as if they spent most of their lives combating the desert blazes and storms. Merchandise was displayed outdoors and there were dozens of pool tables at outdoor "pool halls." The business of train changing and, later on, border crossing took up half a day and half a night.

In the dawn light as we traveled into Mongolia, the severe desert gradually transformed into rolling grassland hills, as beautifully contoured as any modern sculpture. The sensuousness of the land formations, in some places almost entirely treeless, in others darkened by patches of

evergreens, was more appealing to me than the rugged mountains we saw in China on our way to Mongolia.

The mantle of grass that covers the land is thin. In places, the tan soil emerges; if great care in grazing is not observed and heavy rains are not controlled with terraces, ditching and other means to guide and contain the water, erosion could damage and perhaps destroy the productive capacity of the pastures.

We arrived in the morning at Mongolia's capital, Ulan Bator. Here I had the opportunity to observe a traditional society that has stepped far enough into modern times to please the tastes of Westerners. Comfortable accommodations are available in an up-to-date city, yet a Buddhist temple complex is filled with 20 chanting Buddhist monks in red robes worshipping in an atmosphere redolent of incense.

Here the faithful line up to purchase incense and holy water. Devout citizens bring money to the monks, one of whom is eager to help the crowd file around the chanting monks in the small temple. Many of the monks are concentrating on songs recorded on pieces of paper covered with Mongolian calligraphy.

Ulan Bator is home to half a million people, a big percentage of the country's population. More than half the city dwellers live in cement apartment buildings, and there are many new tall apartment buildings on the outskirts of the city. A bus transport system carries the population around — something of a surprise to us since we had come from bicycle-dense Beijing.

At the national library are ancient

Buddhist texts from many parts of the Mongolian world. Boxes made to store these loose leaves are decorated on the top with exquisite bronze and gold sculptures. A museum displays reconstructed dinosaurs and the myriad wild animals that inhabit this large, pristine country.

This remote and exotic country may be on the threshold of radical change, but now one can still see the timeless grasslands with herds of cattle, sheep and horses, and their attendant horsemen, pursuing their nomadic existence as they have done since before the time of Genghis Khan.

As the countryside opened up to us for the thousands of miles we traveled west into Siberia, we were more or less constantly in rolling or hilly land covered with birch, spruce, Siberian pine and other sorts of evergreen and deciduous trees. Valleys of pastures and fields stretched toward the hills everywhere. Only at Lake Baikal did we see a patch of snow remaining, but we were told that in this region there are only 72 frost-free days a year.

Familiar wild flowers growing near the train track delighted us — lupine, nightshade, Queen Anne's lace, dame's rocket, bouncing bet, and many others. The weather was warm to hot every day. In some places a crop seemed ready to harvest even though in others land had recently been plowed for sowing, exposing a dark chocolate-colored earth.

At Ulan-Ude, the capital of the Buryat Autonomous Republic, our first Siberian destination, we visited an opera house, built in 1968. The seating is arranged in a

circle, and the stage is so large it can accommodate the most demanding productions. In this Siberian outpost, no one would have anticipated finding so accomplished a theater.

At Ulan-Ude, I began to feel disoriented — I had no understanding of where I was. I seemed "an inland castaway," as Robert Louis Stevenson described himself at one point in his "Travels With a Donkey." Analyzing this feeling as we went along, I decided it was a consequence of believing I would never be there again. There was something about entering Russia from Mongolia that left me hanging.

We traveled overnight from Ulan-Ude to Lake Baikal. A large stone had fallen on the track we were to take up the western shore of the lake and officials feared other stones might be loosened by the vibrations of the train, so we were routed to Irkutsk, about 45 miles (70 kilometers) away.

Driving around Irkutsk, we saw remnants of old wooden houses sinking into the ground because they were not built on foundations. The city was founded in 1661, where the Angara and the Irkut rivers join, the Angara being the only river that drains Lake Baikal. Irkutsk is well located as a Siberian trading center.

We visited an old church that recently had been refurbished. The ceilings and walls were decorated with illustrations of biblical stories and everything was more reminiscent of a European church than of the historic churches and cathedrals one sees west of the Urals, where icons and hieratically styled paintings are the norm.

And on another occasion, we were treated to folk music and dancing. I was

moved to hear the works because of the struggles the Siberians are undergoing today to keep their society together. I thought the performers were fortifying themselves with the heroism of those courageous men and women who 175 years before had endured the isolation and privations of Irkutsk before their was a Trans-Siberian railway.

FROM Irkutsk, where we were bused to Lake Baikal, but when we arrived near 5 P.M., we found the lake covered with fog. Fortunately, I had awakened at 4 A.M. when the train was approaching Lake Baikal, before the detour to Irkutsk. I had watched for several hours as the train passed close to the lake and on some occasions seemed almost to be passing over its edge. Trees skirted the shore in places, but in others, dreadful industrial places, built in the shore and in some white rocks lined the shore and in some places there was a sort of beach. The water's surface was disturbed by scarcely a ripple as the sun began to shine upon it.

Novosibirsk, on the Ob River, far west of Irkutsk, owes its importance to the construction of the Trans-Siberian railway. The Soviet Union converted it to a major military manufacturing center and a seat of scientific research. Its avenues are broad and its big buildings were built in this century. At the center of the city, a square is given over to a World War II memorial. Huge stone panels carry the names of war victims, and gigantic sculptures to right and left memorialize them and their bereft relatives. Over all, an immense stone sculpture of a standing, grieving woman is an affecting witness.

During a tour of Novosibirsk, in part to show us a monumental bridge built across the Ob, the longest bridge of the Trans-Siberian railway, our local guide told us that half the people don't marry, half of those who do separate, and more people die than are being born in that city.

Outside Perm, an electrical malfunction stopped our engine, causing wheel damage on several cars. We waited until a new engine was found and we were brought into Perm, where the train was disassembled. It was wonderful to see the readiness with which a night crew was organized to work in the rain to replace the wheels on two carriages, in one of which I was traveling. About 12 men, working all at once, with the aid of a crane, expertly and cooperatively accomplished this operation.

Because our adventure in Perm delayed our train for at least eight hours, an anticipated stop in Yaroslavl had to be omitted and we arrived in Moscow at 2 A.M. Upon leaving the train, I thought of Robert Louis Stevenson's conflicted emotions when parting at Saint Jean-de-Gard, France, with his donkey, Modestine. To get her had walked 120 miles in the difficult Cévennes in 1878. Modestine made his journey possible, but she was demanding and confining too. He claims he wept when it came to selling her. In the early morning at the Moscow station, it was pleasant to anticipate a stationary bed and roomy quarters, but with that change, our journey was nearly over. I did not weep, but I had some regrets.

Diana Bird is a writer who lives in Virginia.

THE MOVIE GUIDE

Un Indien dans la Ville

Directed by Hervé Palud
France

Steph (Thierry Lhermitte), a hard-pressed yuppie, is trying to fit in a divorce and remarriage between last orders on the Bourse. He goes to the depths of the Amazonian forest, power-book in hand, to find Patricia (Mou-Miou), who has changed her name to Palikou and who introduces him to Mimi-Siku (Ludwig Briand), his son. The young savage wants to see Paris: The movie gets its laughs from scenes such as the boy ambling down the Champs-Élysées half naked in the midst of traffic, and climbing the Eiffel Tower. These antics have distracted his father, who makes mistakes in business and love, botching his affair with Charlotte (Arielle Dombasle), a New Age pre-

ciouse ridicule. Palud's efficient script works over themes like fake guru remedies for civilization's ills: of course marriage and children win out. The movie, essentially "Crocodile Dundee" aimed at 10-year-olds and their grandmothers, delivers, thanks to the energetic Lhermitte (who also co-produced), Mou-Miou and Briand, who share a style that goes back to their café-theater beginnings; they know about tempo. Briand, who played Gavroche in Robert Hossein's "Les Misérables," makes a fetching little Indian. (Joan Dupont, IHT)

S.P.Q.R.
Directed by Carlo Vanzina
Italy

Not even the combined screen charisma of Christian De Sica, Massimo Boldi and

the American comic actor Leslie Nielsen can save this perfunctory extravaganza from the purgatory of mediocrity. Carlo Vanzina, a director best known for light, mass-market Italian comedies, exceeds both his reach and grasp in an ambitious comedy that never gets out of low gear. Set 2,000 years ago in Imperial Rome, "S.P.Q.R." was conceived as a satire of contemporary Italian politics. Boldi plays the part of Antonio Servilio, a magistrate from the northern province of Mediolanum who comes to Rome to investigate political payoffs. De Sica is Cicerone Atticus, senator and factotum of Lucio Cincio (Nielsen), the mastermind and puppet master of Rome's corrupt political machine. The premise is promising, as are the opening 10 minutes of the film. Yet the script — which Vanzina wrote along with his brother Enrico — soon loses both momentum and direction. Is it a satire? A sex comedy? A historical farce? Or a distant mirror? Not even the director seems to know. "S.P.Q.R." drifts into a morass of stale, third-rate gags and painfully predictable plot turns. (Ken Shulman, IHT)

Higher Learning
Directed by John Singleton
U.S.

John Singleton's caustic film about the racial and sexual prejudices that color life on a microcosmic college campus turns out to be an inadvertent example of the same small-mindedness it deplores. Everyone here, from beer-swilling white fraternity boys to rap-loving black students harassed by the campus police, can be judged at face value. Everyone is exactly what he or she seems. So a bow-tie-wearing professor (Laurence Fishburne) is suspiciously but wise. Surfer-girl blondes

are airheads and casual racists. Lesbians are sensitive and kindly, but radical feminists may show up at consciousness-raising rallies dressed as nuns. Nice guys wear condoms. Bad guys rape their inebriated dates. Really bad guys say things like, "We're white in America. What more do you need, man?" "Higher Learning" plays like an entertaining television series punctuated by heavy-handed moralizing. There are enough little lectures to warrant course credit before the film is over. (Janet Maslin, NYT)

I.Q.
Directed by Fred Schepisi
U.S.

The nice thing about "I.Q." is that its intelligence doesn't stop at the title. In a romantic comedy that mingles brilliant physics with auto mechanics, everybody manages to seem smart. Most of all Fred Schepisi, the director, who has figured out how to get the absolute best out of his leading actors. Schepisi is so clever that his audience will have no trouble believing Walter Matthau as Albert Einstein, and that's just for starters. "I.Q." features wonderful comic performances from both Meg Ryan, who is newly calm and composed here, and Tim Robbins, who is all dimples and slow, easy delivery. Oozing total sexual confidence, Robbins plays a mechanic who really likes comets, and Ryan plays a scientist who doesn't much like auto mechanics. And happens to be Einstein's niece. Another thing Schepisi makes easy to believe is that when these two meet, they fall instantly in love. One of the film's scientist characters says it best, speaking in the idiom that the screenplay renders most deftly: "Wonderful to the power of three." (Janet Maslin, NYT)

By Suzy Menkes
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — A standing ovation under a hail of carnations greeted Christian Lacroix for his exquisite watercolor collection, which ended the spring-summer couture season on a high, sweet note.

Each dress was framed like an aquarelle against the runway arch: pale blue satin streaked at the waist with the mauve of a dawn sky; tulle misting a herba-

Paris Fashion

ceous print on taffeta; a nimbus of fabric floating saucily over the derriere; and lace, in the silver gray of wet Paris rooftops, sparkling with raindrops of embroidery.

The bravos that brought Lacroix back on stage were for the moth-wing delicacy of fabrics, textures, colors and embellishment — which together created effects so subtle that they are difficult to convey even in pictures.

"Now we know why we are here in Paris," said Joan Kaner of Neiman Marcus, one of the first to leap to her feet. "It was the most exquisite collection. It was light, it was frothy, it was divine. He will keep couture alive."

How to explain the Real Thing in couture? In Lacroix's case, it is not about line — the point of the show was that the silhouette was nebulous, soft as a bed jacket, sloped negligently off the shoulders of a ball gown. Or skirts just wafted vaguely, loose and light, around the knees.

Lacroix's couture is rather a romantic vision, expressed by fusing his creative imagination with Parisian craftsmanship. So one of the pallid evening dresses, touched with moonbeam silver, was actually made with tiny embroidered star-flowers. Cel-



Lacroix's gingham-checked taffeta dress, touch of lace.

ery-green gloves, themselves a work of art, ran up the arms, and from the ears dangled glassy jewels, as light as 18th-century bijoux.

Yet the show looked modern, in its way, given that Lacroix is an evening-wear designer, focused on the salon. Day clothes went with simple pants, as

though he were offering the hand-woven tweed jacket as the couture item and the rest as a backcloth.

Other outfits teetered toward costume. But when Lacroix made a ballerina dress, it was not so much theatrical as a young girl's dream of the ballet, with a skirt flowering beneath a bustier top. And his one wild splash of color — dusty pink, burnt orange and shocking pink on a bustled corset dress — was a bolt of lightning.

"I think couture should be a little exotic — for a woman who is not especially a 'fashion' person, and above all, things that cannot be done in ready-to-wear," Lacroix said.

So familiar lingerie effects — corset, slip dress and encrustations of lace — were raised to a different plane. Instead of displaying supermodel flesh, they suggested a sweet disorder in the dress, as black lace peeked out of a wrapped polka-dot dress or a black-and-white gingham taffeta revealed its lace petticoat.

Cutting the sweetness were occasional flashes of contemporary style, although they were not always the most successful outfits: a curving military jacket, or a blouse, with Carmen

meets-cowgirl embroidery. Or the pale-pink bolero and bare-the-midriff top.

Considering the tiny Lacroix atelier (30 "hands" to Chanel's and Yves Saint Laurent's 100), the evening outfits seemed each like a tiny miracle. But there are moments when you can see Lacroix's imagination (he is a sketcher, not a hands-on designer) beating its wings in vain against the limits of time, technique or the money required for model fittings. Given the Lacroix monism overall effect, the audience was indulgent.

"The lightness of it all, the lace, the delicacy, the coloring — it sent chills through me," said Asia's leading retailer, Joyce Ma. "As far as I am concerned, that was it."

This season has been, against the odds, a good one for couture, which has gone back to its roots of craftsmanship, instead of trying to be as brazen as ready-to-wear or to chase amorphous street style.

Maybe the myth of couture as a "laboratory of ideas" or a "motor" for other products can finally be laid to rest, and the craft appreciated for its own sake, and as the ultimate luxury and pleasure to be offered to women.

If fashion wants to look to couture for trends, there were recurrent themes: the tautly fitted jacket (especially at Chanel), the bolero, which makes a nifty cover-up for day or evening dresses; and the small waist, often corseted.

The general return to grooming and attention to detail is summed up by the ineffably French word "chic."

Opinions are divided as to whether couture has benefited from the influence of John Galiano, who elevated couture style to the height of fashion in his October ready-to-wear show. His witty takes on the feather hats, fitted bodices, wiggling skirts and stiletto heels of 1950s haute couture have, in their turn, been parodied in this season's couture.

This seems dangerous, for such insiders' fashion must be bewildering for both clients and magazine readers, who risk dismissing beautiful clothes as re-tromania.

Galiano, attending a party in honor of photographer Mario Testino, given by French Vogue, seemed to have polished his personal image in preparation for his hoped-for entry into couture at the house of Givenchy. The British designer had abandoned punk, grunge and kilt for his version of a sober suit (tailored skinhead jacket with checked Vivienne Westwood bondage pants). He denied that his collection was a pastiche, saying that it used the couture technique of cutting and stitching by which he is fascinated.

"It just feels right," says Galiano. "Couture is something that is in the air."

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HEAR THIS

■ Sure enough, it's awards time. We've just had the Golden Globes and we're coming up on the Oscars, but forget all that, here are the food awards. Regis Marcon, a French chef from a village in the Haute-Loire region, has won the Golden Boccuse. The food in this competition may be full of surprises, but the outcome apparently isn't: France has won the biennial prize every time it has been allowed to enter (only every other competition). In a major upset, however, Belgians won the World Pastry Cup, followed by Japan and the United States. A new world order, no doubt.

Bargain Wines and Atmosphere

By Patricia Wells
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — The wine prices alone will make you rub your eyes in disbelief, certain you're rummaging through some leftover bin at the supermarket: A refreshing, typically dry and crisply acidic 1990 Vouvray sec from the vineyards of Marc Bredif, for 47 francs (about \$9). A festive and bubbly nonvintage Taittinger Brut, for 106 francs. And from Bordeaux, an intense, tannic 1989 Saint-Julien Château Lagrange — an unusual blend of 50 percent merlot and 50 percent cabernet sauvignon — at 98 francs.

Château Bouscassé Vieilles Vignes (at 72 francs). And for those who like to simply sip and sample, some nice half bottles are worth ordering, including Gagnard's 1990 red Burgundy, Chassagne-Montrachet at 34 francs, and Chapoutier's 1993 Crozes-Hermitage "Petite Roche" at 22 francs. The most expensive wines, at 250 francs per bottle, include the super-concentrated 1992 Saint-Émilion Château Le Tertre Roteboeuf; the rich and brilliant Sauternes — 1985 to 1989 — from Château Raymond-Lafon, and Armand Rousseau's supple, traditionally made 1992 red Burgundy, Chambertin-Clos de Bèze.

But beyond the wine bargains, Clerc's restaurant offers a picturesque Left Bank setting and an honorable 215-franc fixed-price menu that includes a lovely cheese tray plus dessert. The place does have that "we're just getting started" feel about it, as waiters confuse orders, and the timing is a bit off — a group of five may wait several minutes until each diner at the table has been served. But the waiters are aware of their blundering and amuse you in such a way that all is forgiven. Situated in a beautifully restored stone-and-wooden-beamed space around the corner from Notre Dame.

Les Bouchons de François Clerc, 12 Rue de l'Hôtel Colbert, Paris 5; tel: 43.54.15.34. Closed Saturday lunch and Sunday. Credit cards: American Express, MasterCard, Visa. 215-franc fixed-price menu lunch and dinner; 115-franc menu lunch only.

Prague's New Restaurant Scene

By Florence Fabricant
New York Times Service

PRAGUE — In Prague, a beautiful centuries-old city that was relatively untouched by war, restaurants are set in medieval dungeons, gilt-trimmed merchant houses, historic beer halls and soaring Art Nouveau salons, offering a visual feast. But until fairly recently, satisfying the palate has been something else.



Nothing about U Zlatý Hrásky, a humble 17th-century cottage, on a quiet lane in the upper reaches of Mala Strana, suggests the refinement of the interior, save perhaps its lovely golden sign. The dining rooms, which seat 90 people, are on two floors. They are joined by a handsome wooden staircase and have damask-covered walls, carved fruitwood trim and gilded sconces. The multilingual menu, with nearly 100 dishes, makes good reading.

In addition to caviar, smoked salmon, foie gras, traditional Czech specialties, game and vegetarian dishes, there is a separate listing of dishes made with snails, including one with snail livers, and also a section of dishes "recommended for ladies." The latter, not exactly what you might expect, includes tourneys stuffed with brains, and lamb with rice and honey.

Scale: 1/4 inch = 1 foot

ner \$25 to \$42.50 a person. 2 Smetanova Nabrezi, tel: 24-22-76-14.

There is an alluring, stylish intimacy about the pair of antique-filled rooms that make up David, a serious little restaurant a few steps from the U. S. Embassy in Mala Strana, the diplomatic and governmental hub of the city across the river. In a city where menus routinely run for pages, divided into Czech specialties, game, fish, international, vegetarian, etc., David's menu of what might be called contemporary Czech is refreshingly limited. It does not even offer game, usually the anchor of winter menus.

A silky tomato soup, tiny Icelandic shrimp tossed with mushrooms, and baked, tender boneless roast saddle of lamb with spinach and cranberries, stuffed breast of duck with cabbage and plums, followed by pancakes with a warm, jammy huckleberry filling and profiteroles drenched in chocolate sauce — all this made for a fine meal marred only by rather haughty service. Our waiter refused to replace rolls which, having been warmed in a microwave oven, became fossilized the minute they cooled, and was fairly insistent that we try the André randsknecht, one truly forgettable red wine.

A la carte lunch or dinner \$14 to \$24. 21 Trziste, tel: 53-93-25.

THE ARTS GUIDE



Tony Cragg's "Perseus-Oltmans, 1985," in Rivoli, Italy, among 20th-century works from an Amsterdam museum.

BELGIUM

Brussels
La Monnaie, tel: (2) 218-12-11. A new production of Puccini's "Il Trittico." Directed by Sien Winge, conducted by Antonio Pappano, with Jose Van Dam, Sonia Theodoridou and Gabriela Popescu. Feb. 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 14, 16 and 19.
Musée d'Art Ancien, tel: (2) 508-32-11, closed Mondays. Continuing/To Feb. 12: "De Voet a David." 17th- and 18th-century French paintings. Includes paintings by Vouet, Champaigne and Van der Meulen.

BRITAIN

London
National Portrait Gallery, tel: (71) 306-0055, open daily. To June 18: "The Road from 1945: Makers of Postwar Britain." A selection of portraits from the period 1945-1959. The display celebrates the men and women who contributed to Britain's political, social and cultural history in the 15 years of postwar austerity and reconstruction.
Royal Academy of Arts, tel: (71) 494-5515, open daily. To April 9: "Nicolas Poussin." More than 90 paintings by the 17th-century French painter from the early works to the later paintings in which landscape came to dominate.
Tate Gallery, tel: (71) 887-8000, open daily. Continuing/To Feb. 12: "From Gainsborough to the Pre-Raphaelites: Works on Paper." A selection of British watercolors which includes landscapes by Turner, drawings by Rossetti and engravings by Stubbs.

CANADA

Quebec
Musée du Québec, tel: (418) 646-3330, closed Mondays. To May 14: "L'Art Québécois de l'Estampe: 1950-1980." 120 works by more than 40 Quebec artists bear witness to the development of the art of printmaking in Quebec and illustrates major contemporary art movements (Surrealism, Abstract, Pop Art, Op Art, Hyperrealism, etc.).

DENMARK

Humblybek
Louisiana Museum for Moderne Kunst, tel: 43-19-07-19, open daily. Continuing/To Feb. 5: "Toulouse-Lautrec and Paris."

FRANCE

Paris
Centre Culturel Suédois, tel: (1) 44-78-80-20, closed Mondays. To March 12: "Argenterie pour l'Utill et le Plaisir." Silver and gold table ornaments and pieces of jewelry by contemporary Swedish silversmiths.
Centre Georges Pompidou, tel: (1) 44-78-40-86, closed Tuesdays. Continuing/To Feb. 20: "Kurt Schwitters." 300 paintings, collages, sculptures, typographical works and poems created between 1910 and 1947 by the German-born artist.
Mona Bismarck Foundation, tel: (1) 47-23-38-88, closed Sundays. To March 25: "Al and Mondays." 19th-century paintings from the Collection of the Centre Museum in Utrecht. Paintings by masters of the Utrecht school of painting, with bibl-

Musée des Arts Décoratifs, tel: 44-55-57-50, closed Mondays and Tuesdays. To April 30: "Reves d'alcôves." The bedroom, symbol of intimacy, of life and death, and of pain and suffering, is honored in this exhibition.
Théâtre du Châtelet, tel: 40-28-28-40. Purcell's "King Arthur." Directed by Graham Vick, conducted by William Christie, with Jonathan Best, Veronique Gen and Claron McFadden. Feb. 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18 and 19.

GERMANY

Berlin
Neue Nationalgalerie, tel: (30) 266-26-53, closed Mondays. Continuing/To April 17: "George Grosz: Berlin-New York." A retrospective of 50 paintings and 250 works on paper. Grosz was a founding member of the Dada group in Berlin in the 1920s. His works depict life in his native Berlin and in his adopted second home, New York. The exhibition will travel to Düsseldorf.
Cologne
Wallrat-Richartz Museum, tel: (221) 221-2379, closed Mondays. To April 2: "Maurice Denis (1870-1943)." 200 paintings, drawings and art objects, ranging from small Nabi paintings of the 1890s to large complex figure groups in pale colors by the French painter and illustrator. The exhibition will travel to Liverpool and Amsterdam.
Frankfurt
Schirn Kunsthalle, tel: (69) 298-882-11, closed Mondays. Continuing/To Feb. 12: "Asger Jorn: Retro-spective." Paintings, drawings and collages by the Danish painter. A founder of the Cobra group and a supporter of primitive and unorthodox art, Jorn later evolved towards abstraction.

ITALY

Milan
Teatro alla Scala, tel: (2) 80-91-60. Verdi's "Rigoletto." Conducted by Riccardo Muti, with Renzo Bruson, Giorgio Giuseppini and Mariana Pentcheva. Jan. 31, Feb. 2, 4 and 7.
Rivoli
Castello di Rivoli, tel: (11) 858-7258, closed Mondays. To April 23: "L'Orizzonte: Da Cézanne a Picasso, da Pollock a Cragg." More than 100 20th-century paintings and sculptures on loan from the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam. Features works by Dubuffet, De Kooning, Malevich and Appel.

Rome
Camera dei Deputati, tel: (6) 67-601, open Saturdays and Sundays. To Feb. 26: "Arte al Montecitorio del XVI al XX Secolo." An opportunity to see the interior of Bernini's Palazzo di Montecitorio (now home of Italy's Parliament), and more than 100 paintings and sculptures selected from the chamber's extensive art collection.

JAPAN

Nagasaki
Palace of Arts Ten Bosch Museum, tel: (95) 27-0246, open daily. To Feb. 15: "Masters of Utrecht: 17th- to 19th-century Paintings from the Collection of the Centraal Museum in Utrecht." Paintings by masters of the Utrecht school of painting, with bibl-

cal or mythological themes. Modern Dutch paintings are also shown.

LUXEMBOURG

Luxembourg
Casino Luxembourg, tel: (352) 22-50-45, closed Mondays. To March 26: "Luxe, Calme et Volupté: Regards sur le Post-Impressionisme." Major artistic themes of the turn-of-the-century are represented in more than 150 paintings, including interiors by Bonnard and Vuillard, still lifes from Cézanne to Odilon Redon, landscapes from van Gogh to Vallotton and portraits from Gauguin to Matisse.

NETHERLANDS

The Hague
Haags Gemeentemuseum, tel: (31) 70-338-11-11, open daily. Continuing/To April 30: "Piet Mondrian: 1872-1944." More than 180 paintings and works on paper documenting the Dutch painter's creative periods: the early landscapes, Cubist works and abstract works. The exhibition will travel to Washington and New York.

UNITED STATES

New York
The Museum of Modern Art, tel: (212) 708-9800, closed Wednesdays. To April 25: "Kandinsky: Compositions." Forty works by the Russian artist (1866-1944) devoted to the body of work he called the "Composition paintings," with many pre-

liminary studies in oil, watercolor, ink and pencil.

Washington
Washington Opera, Kennedy Center, tel: (202) 416-7850. Smetana's "The Bartered Bride." Conducted by Heinz Fricke, with Ann Paragules and Mark Thomsen. Jan. 30, Feb. 1, 3, 5 and 8.

CLOSING SOON

On Jan. 29: "Marc Chagall e il suo Mondo tra Vitebsk e Parigi." Palazzo Ducale, Genova.

On Jan. 29: "John James Audubon: The Watercolors for the Birds of America." Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.

On Jan. 29: "Pharaoh's Gifts: Stone Vessels from Ancient Egypt." Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.

On Jan. 29: "Agyptomanie: Ägypten und das Abendland." Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna.

On Jan. 29: "Chets d'Oeuvre du Palais du Belvedere de Vienne: De Waldmüller a Klimt." Musée d'Art Moderne, Paris.

On Jan. 29: "The Italian Metamorphosis, 1943-1968." Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York.

On Jan. 29: "Charles Simonds." Jeu de Paume, Paris.

On Jan. 31: "Poemes de Marbre." Musée Barlier-Mueller, Geneva.

On Jan. 31: "Turner Watercolours." National Gallery of Scotland, Edinburgh.

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Figure 1. The effect of the number of trials on the number of correct responses. The number of correct responses was significantly higher than the number of incorrect responses for all conditions. The number of correct responses was significantly higher than the number of incorrect responses for all conditions. The number of correct responses was significantly higher than the number of incorrect responses for all conditions.

Hyundai's Plans Expected to Help Ties With Seoul

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SEOUL — The Hyundai group's move to streamline operations is expected to improve its relations with the Seoul government, which has blocked the conglomerate's fund-raising efforts in recent years, analysts said Thursday.

"The government has long called on local conglomerates to stop excessive expansion and concentrate on core businesses, and Hyundai's plan fits in," said Chang Si Young, a senior researcher at the First Economic Research Institute.

Mr. Chang said he expected the government to remove red tape that had been used to deny Hyundai's access to government loans since Hyundai founder Chung Ju Young unsuccessfully challenged President Kim Young Sam in a 1992 election.

Hyundai said Wednesday it would slash the number of its affiliates to 23 by the end of 1996 from the current 50 to boost its international competitiveness.

"The announcement is seen as another gesture to show how sincerely the group hopes to improve ties with the government," said Kang Dae Hyung, an analyst at Daishin Securities.

Meanwhile, Hyundai said Thursday it had established a technical partnership with California-based Maxtor Corp., which designs data-storage products, to make hard disk drives for export.

Hyundai said its main unit, Hyundai Electronics Industries Co., exchanged a memorandum of understanding with Maxtor on Wednesday to combine Maxtor's technology and Hyundai's manufacturing resources.

Hyundai hopes to begin volume production of Maxtor-designed hard disks this year. Currently, Korea's hard-disk drive production is monopolized by the Samsung group.

Hyundai said it would build a plant in South Korea with an initial investment of \$63 million to manufacture one million units this year. The plant's annual production capacity will be expanded to four million units next year to meet the rapidly growing world market, a Hyundai spokesman said.

(Reuters, AFP)

Kawasaki, LSI Part Ways
Kawasaki Steel Corp. said it had pulled out of a 10-year-old semiconductor venture with U.S.-based LSI Logic Corp., citing differing long-term goals between the two partners, Agence France Presse reported from Tokyo.

Under an agreement signed by both companies, Kawasaki will sell its 45 percent stake in Nihon Semiconductor Inc. to California-based LSI for "between 10 billion yen (\$100 million) and 20 billion yen."

Germany Ready to Court Vietnam

By Brandon Mitchener

International Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT — After lavishing a flurry of political and economic attention on China in 1994, Germany is set to serenade China's traditional Asian rival, Vietnam.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who is planning to visit Vietnam this year, hopes financial aid and investments will help ease tensions caused by Germany's long campaign to make Vietnam repatriate 40,000 "guest workers" invited by the former Communist East Germany who refused to leave the country after the two Germanys united in 1990.

In an accord reached Jan. 11, Germany will offer Vietnam 100 million Deutsche marks (\$66 million) in development aid both in 1995 and 1996, and extend export credit guarantees worth another 100 million DM.

German companies, meanwhile, are taking advantage of the political rapprochement in a stampede to enter the booming Vietnamese market and to try to stake industrial claims ahead of their foreign competitors.

"They have a lot of catching up to do," Germany is among the weakest of foreign investors to date," said Oskar Weggel, an analyst at the Institute for Asian Studies in Hamburg. "We can be proud to have passed Luxembourg in the rankings."

While German companies are increasingly interested in Asia in general, analysts say Vietnam offers those that are willing to rough it at the start a unique opportunity to make an entry, in advance of the kind of boom that has already transformed its neighbors. German exports to all of Southeast Asia have shot up more than 50 percent in the last four years.

The biggest foreign investors in Vietnam to date are Taiwan, Hong Kong, South Korea, Australia, Singapore, Malaysia and Japan, followed by France, the Netherlands, Britain, Switzerland and the United States. American companies are

making a big push to open representative offices ahead of an expected normalization of trade relations.

Germany ranks 26th, with a capital investment of \$22.9 million representing just seven projects, according to the latest statistics from the State Committee for Cooperation and Investment in Hanoi. Vietnamese government and industry welcomes investors from the United

Vietnam is like a mothballed Porsche — "tighten a few screws, remove the dust, and it'll take off."

Oskar Weggel of the Institute for Asian Studies in Hamburg

States and Europe as a counterweight to economic colonization by neighbors in Asia, and Germany enjoys goodwill born of years of cooperation between Vietnam and East Germany.

"They were proud to be able to study in Dresden," said Mr. Weggel, noting that more than 50,000 Vietnamese speak German. "Some of those people are in important offices today."

German companies are lured by the potential of low-cost manufacturing, a huge demand for infrastructure development and a growing appetite for Western consumer goods such as automobiles.

Bayerische Motoren Werke AG on Wednesday became the first European automobile manufacturer to open an assembly line in Vietnam. It plans to open dealerships in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City by the end of the year. Company officials said the local car market would boom within the next five years.

Daimler-Benz AG Chairman Eberhard Reuter said Germany's biggest

company would invest 250 million DM in Vietnam over the next five years in projects ranging from automobile and commercial assembly to energy distribution equipment, airports and aviation.

Dresdner Bank AG recently announced the opening of two representative offices. Deutsche Bank AG is already there and is now applying for a branch license.

Numerous small companies in the German textiles sector, meanwhile, are moving in to take advantage of Vietnam's low wages.

"Vietnam is lower on the development curve in terms of labor costs and other things," said Hung Tran, co-managing director of Deutsche Bank Research. As a market, it is "not yet crowded" and is "poised to take off" as incomes rise, he added.

The minimum wage in Vietnam last year was \$30 a month, according to DB Research, lower than in all other emerging Southeast Asian economies.

Its population of 75 million makes it the 13th most populous nation in the world and the largest in Indochina. Its labor force is young — 39 percent of the population is less than 15 years old — and considered to have a strong Confucian work ethic.

Mr. Weggel, the Hamburg analyst, described Vietnam as a "mothballed Porsche."

"Tighten a few screws, remove the dust and it'll take off," he said.

Detlef Boehle, an Asian affairs expert at the Association of German Chambers of Commerce, agreed. "There's a lot happening in Vietnam," he said, citing demand for German or other foreign expertise in tourism, electricity-generation and distribution, sewage systems, reservoirs, bridge construction, oil and natural gas exploration and telecommunications.

"The chancellor's visit will contribute to the positive image of Germans there and improve the general goodwill," he said.

Pratt & Whitney Pursuing Taiwan Deal

Bloomberg Business News

TAIPEI — Pratt & Whitney is negotiating with China Airlines and Singapore Airlines on establishing a joint venture in Taiwan, the U.S. aircraft engine maker's representative in Taipei said Thursday.

"We're at that point where it's unapproved," Jim Martin, Pratt & Whitney's country manager for Taiwan, said. "It looks very good." He declined to elaborate.

A report in Taiwan's Economic Daily News said the subsidiary of United Technologies Corp. would sign a contract in March with the Taiwan and Singaporean

carriers. Pratt & Whitney would own 50 percent of the venture, the newspaper said, and the airlines would split the other half.

The venture would spend 400 million Taiwan dollars (\$15.2 million) to build Asia's first maintenance facility for high-pressure compressors, the paper said. It is to be located next to Chiang Kai-shek Airport.

Looser Investment Rules Proposed
Taiwan's cabinet proposed easing restrictions on foreign investment in a move to liberalize the country's economy, news agencies reported.

Under the proposal, foreign companies

would be able to apply for permission to invest in Taiwan's oil, power and railway industries, among others, a government statement said.

The statement said the plan, which must be approved by Parliament, would turn Taiwan into a regional center for multinational companies.

Cabinet officials said Taiwan would increase government spending 9.9 percent in the financial year that begins in July, compared with the current budget.

Prime Minister Lien Chan approved the proposed budget of 1.13 trillion dollars, they said.

(AP, AFP)

Semi-Tech Plans to Buy Stake in Akai Electric

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

HONG KONG — Semi-Tech (Global) Co. said Thursday it planned to acquire 55 percent of Akai Electric Co. of Japan for \$173 million, in a drive to expand its business.

The move continues Semi-Tech's strategy of buying stakes in financially troubled companies, said James H. Ting, chief executive of Semi-Tech in Hong Kong.

Semi-Tech said it would acquire 95.9 million new shares to be issued by Akai Electric at 180 yen (\$1.80) each, subject to approval by shareholders at a meeting Feb. 17.

Once the acquisition is completed, Akai Electric is to buy 17.5 percent of Sansui Electric Co. from Semi-Tech for 9.76 billion yen, in a move "strategic to the future business alliance" of Akai Electric and Sansui.

"Akai and Sansui should complement each other very well," Mr. Ting said.

Semi-Tech also controls Sing-

maker, and G.M. Pfaff AG, the largest industrial sewing machine maker in Germany.

The purchase also is designed to capitalize on Singer's worldwide distribution network and on Semi-Tech's stakes in other electronics companies, Mr. Ting said.

Akai, which makes audio equipment and video recorders, had a pre-tax loss of 2.26 billion yen in the year to November, its third consecutive loss, because of the strong yen and increasing competition with Southeast Asian companies.

Akai relies on exports for 80 percent of its sales and has a particularly strong presence in Europe, having transferred production of video cassette recorders from Japan to France.

"Like other Japanese electronic manufacturers, Akai went through the difficult business environment of 1992," Mr. Ting said. The move "will put Akai on a strong footing to regain its leading position in the industry." (Bloomberg, AFP)

Goldman Plans Hong Kong Staff Cut

Bloomberg Business News

HONG KONG — Goldman, Sachs & Co., which is reducing its worldwide work force by 10 percent, is planning to reduce its Hong Kong staff by 100 to 200 people, or up to half of the current staff, sources said Thursday.

The U.S. investment firm is cutting hundreds of jobs because profit continues to suffer amid losses from trading securities of emerging markets and a slowdown in stock and bond sales.

AFP, AFP, Reuters, Knight-Ridder, Bloomberg.

Agreement With U.S. Possible, China Says

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BEIJING — China said Thursday that its dispute with the United States over copyright protections could be resolved.

"The discrepancy is not very big," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said. "So long as the two sides can settle this issue calmly and seek the truth from facts, I believe an agreement can be reached."

Washington described as positive negotiations in Beijing over U.S. demands that China protect software and

entertainment manufacturers from piracy. The last-ditch talks aim to head off U.S. trade sanctions set to take effect Feb. 4.

The talks, which were to have ended last Friday, have already been extended twice, and an embassy official said it was "entirely possible" that they would continue Friday or even into the weekend.

Washington has said that Chinese piracy costs U.S. businesses more than \$1 billion a year.

(Bloomberg, Reuters, AFP)

Miller Brewing Will Join In Beijing Beer Venture

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

HONG KONG — China's burgeoning beer market got another foreign entrant Thursday.

Asimco, the Beijing-based investment company, said it had teamed up with U.S. beer giant Miller Brewing Co. and other investors to spend \$100 million for a 60 percent stake in two Chinese breweries — Five Star, Beijing's largest brewer, and Three Ring, which is Five Star's largest licensee.

The new joint ventures will produce 420,000 metric tons of beer a year for the domestic and export markets. Miller will provide technical, licensing and marketing support.

In entering the Chinese market through joint venture, Miller, a unit of Philip Morris, follows rival U.S. brewer Anheuser-Busch and competitors such as Carlsberg AS of Denmark, Foster's Brewing Group Ltd. of Australia and Heineken NV of the Netherlands.

China is the world's second-largest beer market, after the United States, and its per-capita consumption of 10 liters a year is one-tenth that of such mature beer markets as Australia and Britain.

(Knight-Ridder, AFP)

Indonesia Likely to Delay Telkom's Foreign Listing

Reuters

JAKARTA — Indonesia said Thursday it might delay the proposed international listing of Telkom, its domestic telecommunications monopoly, because global economic conditions were not favorable.

The country's post, tourism and telecommunications minister, Joop Ave, said he still hoped to float Telkom shares at some point in 1995 but that economic conditions could affect the timing of the listing.

"We are watching very closely what has happened in Mexico," he said. "We are also studying the impact of the earthquake in Japan. These events have caused fluctuation on stock exchanges in various places in the world. There are

many companies in the world planning to go international, so we really must be very careful about the timing."

Indosat, Indonesia's international telecommunications firm, successfully listed its shares in New York in October. But the gains those shares made have since been eroded by the international effects of Mexico's financial crisis.

Mr. Ave's comments came just after President Suharto urged Telkom to be cautious in its plan to float shares overseas after the economic problems in Mexico and the Kobe earthquake in Japan.

"The president advises that we must carefully watch world economic and financial developments," Mr. Ave said.

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Notice is hereby given to the shareholders that the

Annual General Meeting

of shareholders of WORLD BALANCED FUND will be held at the offices of Banque Internationale à Luxembourg, 69, route d'Esch, L-1470 Luxembourg, on February 17, 1995 at 11:00 a.m. with the following agenda:

1. Submission of the Reports of the Board of Directors and of the Auditors;
2. Approval of the Statement of Net Assets at November 30, 1994 and the Statement of Operations for the year ended November 30, 1994;
3. Allocation of the Net Results;
4. Discharge to the Directors;
5. Statutory Appointments;
6. Miscellaneous.

The shareholders are advised that no quorum is required for the items of the agenda of the Annual General Meeting and that decisions will be taken on a simple majority of the shares present or represented at the Meeting with no restrictions.

In order to attend the Annual General Meeting, the owners of bearer shares shall have to deposit their shares five clear days before the meeting with Banque Internationale à Luxembourg S.A., 69, route d'Esch, L-1470 Luxembourg, attention of Mrs. N. Dupont or Mrs. A.M. Muller.

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Avis de dividende

L'Assemblée Générale Statutaire réunie le 20 janvier 1995 a décidé la mise en paiement, à partir du 6 février 1995, contre remise du coupon n° 4 (EMI-Netherlands Index Plus coupon n° 2, EMI-Switzerland Index Plus et EMI-Italy Index Plus coupon n° 1) d'un dividende pour les huit compartiments suivants:

EMI-Belgium Index Plus: BEF 246 brut
(BEF 182.655 net en Belgique après déduction du pré-compte mobilier de 25,75 %)

EMI-France Index Plus: FRF 10,80 brut
(FRF 8,019 net en Belgique après déduction du pré-compte mobilier de 25,75 %)

EMI-UK Index Plus: GBP 3,61 brut
(GBP 2,680425 net en Belgique après déduction du pré-compte mobilier de 25,75 %)

EMI-Germany Index Plus: DEM 0,80 brut
(DEM 0,594 net en Belgique après déduction du pré-compte mobilier de 25,75 %)

EMI-Spain Index Plus: ESP 185 brut
(ESP 137,3625 net en Belgique après déduction du pré-compte mobilier de 25,75 %)

EMI-Netherlands Index Plus: NLG 10,62 brut
(NLG 7,88335 net en Belgique après déduction du pré-compte mobilier de 25,75 %)

EMI-Switzerland Index Plus: CHF 0,56 brut
(CHF 0,4158 net en Belgique après déduction du pré-compte mobilier de 25,75 %)

EMI-Italy Index Plus: ITL 1,730 brut
(ITL 1,284,525 net en Belgique après déduction du pré-compte mobilier de 25,75 %)

par action de la catégorie A aux actions en circulation le 20 janvier 1995 (VNI du 23 janvier 1995). Les titres contenant ex-dividende à partir du 23 janvier 1995 (VNI du 24 janvier 1995).

Les coupons sont payables aux guichets des institutions suivantes:

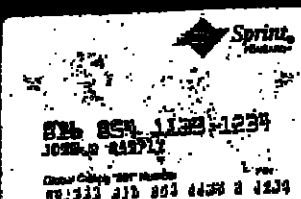
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Argentina	00-1-800-777-1111	Dominican Republic	1-800-751-7377	Kenya	1-800-877-8000	Peru	196
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China	86-10-123	Indonesia (Jakarta)	0062-21	Spain	0034-9		
Colombia	980-130-010	Indonesia (Surabaya)	0062-31	Sweden	0046-8		
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MULTILINGUALISM IN EUROPE

INCREASING INTEGRATION THROUGH LANGUAGE TRAINING

When France recently assumed the presidency of the European Union, it proposed that all EU secondary students be required to learn two European foreign languages.

A study conducted by the EU's Eurydice program ("Key Data on Education in the European Union," to be published in March) shows that the teaching of foreign languages begins at between the ages of eight and 10 for nearly all European students. In many countries, especially the small northern countries like the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg, this is compulsory. At the secondary school level, foreign language training is already general in Europe.

Even Britain and France, notorious for their pride in their native tongues, are making an extra effort. This

year, France will introduce 15 minutes a day of audiovisual foreign language instruction for all seven-year-olds. The British government has a plan to convert 250 secondary schools into language and technology colleges.

Jean-Pierre Van Deth, director of Expolanguages, a language fair held yearly in Paris, says that while France's proposal that secondary students learn at least two languages provides an admirable goal, it will not be achieved right away for economic reasons.

Since the 1970s, English has been the most popular second language in Europe. "For science and technology," says Mr. Van Deth, "it

is important to use a common language, but now people must go beyond that and learn the native languages of their interlocutors in order to understand them. English is one of those languages that is useful for designating things, like the label on a bottle of wine. Other languages are more expressive — more like tasting the wine. In Europe, we must start tasting other languages. The French must try to learn Greek and Portuguese, for example, to understand the people who speak the language."

The final frontier
Bernhard Roters, director of CLIC, a language school in Seville that teaches Spanish to foreign students and English, German and French to local residents, explains the importance of learning foreign languages a bit differently: "It's one of the last adventures available to us," he

says. "It allows a different, and better, access to a country and its people."

Dirk Van Nieuwenborgh, sales manager for CERAN, a language school with headquarters in Belgium that has branches all over Europe and will soon have one in the United States, points out that while it may be possible to do business in one language, in order to be integrated socially, other languages are necessary.

Knowledge of a foreign language can also be a financial asset. A businessperson who speaks another language may have that extra edge that gets the contract signed, and a job-seeker with more than one language has an obvious advantage in any company that does business in Europe. Countries whose inhabitants are known for their linguistic skills can also attract industry more easily. Bernard Zagladski, general manager

of GMS Textile Manufacturing & Trading Company, a subsidiary of a major Chinese textile group, says his company chose Nivelles, Belgium as the location of its European offices and warehouse primarily for this reason. "We have a multilingual staff," he says. "Everybody here speaks four languages."

Theory vs. practice

The importance of learning foreign languages is obvious — the question of how best to go about it remains. The Eurydice study states: "In general, only half of those who learn a foreign language speak it well enough to hold a conversation," and adds that in the EU, "one-third of young people [15-24] today are incapable of conversing in a foreign language, although 89 percent have been taught at least one."

According to Mr. Van Deth, there is no easy way to learn another language. He points to Luxembourg, where foreign languages are taught beginning at the age of six, as an ideal. "There, the language is not learned in isolation," he says. "It serves as a means of communication for courses in other subjects." He says it is preferable to study a language for half an hour a day rather than three hours once weekly because it keeps the language in mind and makes it easier to think spontaneously in it.

For those who need to

learn a language very quickly, he recommends an intensive course of at least five to six hours per day in the country of origin, if possible. Most people can conduct basic conversations after two weeks of intensive courses, he says.

Intensive is an understatement for the courses offered at CERAN, where students live, and often dream, in the language, spending the entire day with their professors, from 8 A.M. to 10 or 11 P.M., and speaking nothing but the language they are learning. This effective but grueling method is recommended for those who are highly motivated, many of them businesspeople who need to learn a language quickly.

Total immersion

At the Lidén & Denz Center for Russian as a Foreign Language in St. Petersburg, students live with Russian families who speak no foreign languages, giving them no choice but to immerse themselves in the language and culture. "It is probably more important to go to the country of origin to learn Russian than it is with other languages," says Walter Denz, director of the Swiss-owned school. "Because the Russian mentality is so different. Also, you can't work in Russia without Russian because the business community doesn't speak English."

Heidi Ellison

SHIFTING RANKINGS

English still tops the charts, but German's on the rise.

In the 1970s, a language boom began in Europe, and as a result, the younger generation has a much higher language literacy than older people. According to a study conducted by the European Union's Eurydice program, in 1994 only 21 percent of those 55 and older had learned English, while 65 percent of 15-to-24-year-olds had studied it.

English is a good example because it is the most popular foreign language studied in Europe, at both the primary and secondary levels. An amazing 83 percent of secondary school students in the EU were learning English in 1991-92. The study of other foreign languages has increased along with that of English in the past two decades. French is number two in popularity in every EU country except Denmark and the Netherlands, where German takes that honor, and Britain and Ireland, where French is the foreign language of choice. While French still holds a prominent place in the language pantheon, however, it is losing ground in Spain, where fewer young people are learning it.

German comes in number three in Europe, with most students inhabitants of its North European neighbors. In Greece, Spain, Portugal and Italy, there was little interest in German as a foreign language at the beginning of the 1990s, but Bernhard Roters of CLIC, a Seville-based language school, says that German is now competing with French for second place after English among Spanish students at his school.

In France, German and Spanish follow English in popularity. In Ireland, the study of German has increased dramatically, with some 26 percent of young people learning the language.

Frank Giffard, director of the Institut für Fremdsprachen und Auslandskunde bei der Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg in Bavaria, says that while English continues to draw the largest number of students, "we're witnessing a decline in demand for French, and Spanish is gaining in popularity." He says that if only one foreign language is going to be learned, it should be English.

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PARIS LANGUAGE FAIR IN 13TH YEAR

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Expolangues, the Paris language fair now in its 13th year, provides a forum for language professionals to share information and expertise. It is also open to the public, which comes in droves to discover how to improve its language skills.

The theme of this year's fair is Ger-

many and the German language, and some 220 square meters of exhibition space will be devoted to the country's language and culture. The air will ring with some 40 different languages, however, and throughout the show, there will be dozens of conferences, meetings and demonstrations on topics ranging from CD-ROMs to Greek as a key language for doing business in Eastern Europe and the Balkans.

At the same time, an international cultural festival presents a smorgasbord of performing arts. Highlights of this year's Expolangues include a con-

cert by Ute Lemper organized by the Goethe Institute, a performance of "Dracula" in English and a performance piece centering on Akua-Ba, the symbol of femininity, beauty and fertility of the Akan people of Ghana and the Côte d'Ivoire.

The show will take place at Paris's Grande Halle de la Villette. It is open to the public Jan. 28-Feb. 1. More than 300 exhibitors will be on hand to greet the 40,000 visitors expected. The entry fee is 40 francs for the public, 30 francs for students and free for teachers and children up to the age of nine. H.E.

GERMAN GAINS GROUND

The boom in learning German has created a huge need for new learning materials.

Europe's political and social transformations have both developed and segmented the market for teaching German. Leading educational suppliers have reacted by creating entire new ranges of specialized curricula and learning materials.

One effect of Europe's upheavals has been to send one social and demographic group after the other back to the classroom. A favorite subject area is foreign languages, with German—once a hidebound mainstay of college curricula—now a swiftly multiplying indicator of upward personal and professional mobility on the Continent.

Influx from the East

"The great wave of emigration from the former Soviet Union and other Central and East European countries to Germany has created a pressing need for new kinds of German-language courses," says Viktor Augustin, head of Berlin's Europa Sprachenschule, a leading purveyor of specialized Ger-

man classes in both Germany and St. Petersburg. "Our clientele ranges from newly arrived engineers and doctors striving to requalify themselves in their chosen professions or upgrade their occupational skills to Volksdeutsche (the 2 million Eastern Europeans of ethnic German descent now resident in Germany) with a need to get a basic grasp of their new home's way of thinking and its language. The teaching of each of these groups has entailed the development of single-area curriculum and learning materials."

Says Hans-Werner Blaasch, head of the international language services department at the Munich-based Goethe Institute: "Economic progress in Central and Eastern Europe and growing ties to the West, and specifically to Germany, have produced an ever-greater number of managers, lawyers and even scientists operating on the international scale and wishing or needing to learn business or technical German."

In addition, German and English have replaced Russian as the prime foreign lan-

guages in most of Central Europe's secondary schools.

Mr. Blaasch goes on: "The increase in demand has exacerbated a serious shortage in modern materials of language instruction and in teachers trained in using them. In view of the vast number of people now learning German in Central and Eastern Europe—two-thirds of the 20 million doing so all over the world—this represents a major problem."

Brand new curricula

To alleviate it, the Goethe Institute, the country's official disseminator of German language and culture, is currently working on 40 projects in the region, nearly all being undertaken in conjunction with local teacher-training institutes.

Says Hubert Eichheim, head of the Goethe Institute's research and development department: "Much of our work is a remedying of the shortcomings of the past Communist era, such as the publishing of new textbooks—these without indoctrinating examples or other bits of

disguised propaganda, and with attractive, interesting content. A large part consists of helping formulate entire curricula and such new [to the region] subjects as German for specific purposes such as business administration and marketing."

Extra business clout

The typical learners of German in the past were students heading toward studies in Germany, plus a sprinkling of tourists and executives. What they learned hadn't changed much over the decades, starting with the indefinite articles and ending with excerpts from Goethe. Nor was German one of Europe's go-go lan-

AN ESSENTIAL SKILL FOR MANAGERS

A knack for languages is becoming an essential skill for Euromanagers as a head for numbers.

Last year, the London Business School, one of the top 10 institutions of its kind in Europe, made the ability to speak a language in addition to English an exit requirement for graduates in its MBA program. The move points the way to a commercial world where linguistic skills are viewed as a vital and necessary part of any competent manager's business armory. Although English remains the leading global language for business communications, far from all junior European workers speak it, so mobile Euromanagers need to have two, three or even four languages at their disposal.

Peter Johnston, Mobil Oil's London-based human-resources manager, puts it in a nutshell: "It's a great marketing advantage if you can at least start a conversation in your customer's language—even if most businesspeople, especially in Europe, have good English anyway."

He considers that substantially more graduates entering Mobil have a language ability beyond English compared with 10 years ago. "Almost half our engineers have taken language courses at university, and among other graduates it's well over half," he says. "If our graduate managers go on overseas assignments, we like to immerse them in that particular foreign language beforehand by sending them to a specialist external school for a month. They learn to speak the language well, but the difficulty comes in writing. However, as a U.S. company, we use English for internal communication, so the written word is normally English."

At Chase Manhattan (Europe), graduate recruitment manager Tracey Barr explains that the bank actively encourages its staff to acquire language skills, with the most need for German, Italian, French and Spanish—in that order. "Many of our graduate applicants from Continental Europe possess four languages: their mother tongue and English, plus two more at a relatively high standard of competence. British applicants may have a second language if we're lucky."

Chase Manhattan's London offices offer free classes in the

four main European languages other than English during lunchtime and after work in the evening. "Languages are becoming more important, and you have to be truly exceptional to succeed without them," says Ms. Barr.

Not all international corporations adopt such a progressive language policy. IBM in Southampton, south England, reserves limited language training for just those employees going to countries where they want to talk to nationals who cannot speak English.

An IBM spokesperson says: "Foreign language skills are not rated at all highly where recruitment is concerned. When we hire someone, we're primarily looking at their academic ability as it relates directly to the job vacancy. Few people are sent for foreign language tuition from Southampton."

Overall, however, the tide is flowing strongly in the direction of multilingualism. According to the Association of Graduate Recruiters in Britain: "All business schools offering MBA studies should include a foreign language option within their program, but under 5 percent of U.K. entrants to those courses possess first degrees in languages."

Many European business schools provide MBA programs that are bilingual. Italy's SNA Bocconi in Milan advertises a bilingual postgraduate degree in Italian and English, although all instruction is in the latter. Spain's Navarra University in Barcelona offers its MBA students the chance of becoming fluent in Spanish and English, while the ESADE school of management, also in Barcelona, allows first-year students to be taught in Spanish, English or both.

At Warwick Business School in Britain, virtually all MBA students study at least one language at the university's language center, where the selection on offer runs to Cantonese, Mandarin and Japanese. The school's administrative director, Bill Manuel, says: "One of the big criteria for employers is added value in personal skills. Often they come to us asking for candidates with two languages plus English."

Graham Wade

guages, being relegated to a perennial third place behind English and French.

The first wave of new learners in the post-1990 era changed all that. Central and

Eastern Europe's swelling ranks of fledgling managers quickly realized that the ability to deal with Germans in German would be an incalculable business advantage. Their numbers were so great that local institutes were soon bursting at the seams, sending the managers to such "near East" cities as Munich and Vien-

Terry Swartzberg

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LINGUAPHONE **Herald Tribune**

SPORTS

Chargers Face Daunting Task in Stopping 49ers

By Dave Sell
Washington Post Service

MIAMI — The San Francisco 49ers, who know about rain, flooded the National Football League with points this season. If the San Diego Chargers are to pull off the biggest upset in Super Bowl history Sunday night, they will have to find a sandbag or two.

The 49ers' second-year fullback, William Floyd, wondered if even those reinforcements would help the Chargers.

"No one can stop this offense, but I won't say San Diego can't," Floyd said, trying to ice that elusive line between forthright commentary and Super Bowl bravado.

"You got an army anywhere near here?" Floyd said, when asked about the way to stop the 49ers. "We're on a roll right now. We feel good about everything on offense. It's not a case of being overconfident. It is a confidence in ourselves to be able to go out and do the job. We've worked so hard for this."

The 49ers do have a multitude of ways to defeat opponents. Unlike the National Football Conference Eastern Division teams that won Super Bowls, the 49ers rely on the pass more than the run. Yet, there is enough balance and potency in the running game to hurt opponents in either fashion.

"This team enjoys run blocking," said tackle Harris Barton. "Most offensive linemen like to run block, but we have our expertise in pass blocking. That's our thing. With Jerry Rice, John Taylor, Ricky Walters, Brent Jones, we know how the football is moved in San Francisco and it's through the air."

The Chargers' strength on defense is stopping the run. They were fifth in the NFL in that department, allowing an average of 87.8 yards per game. They got here by forcing the Pittsburgh Steelers — who had the top-ranked running attack — to shift to passing. The Steelers gained 349 yards that way but lost the American Football Conference championship game.

"That was a great idea to take that away and make them do things they were not comfortable doing," said Jones, the 49ers' tight end, who had 49 receptions in the regular season. "While the Steelers moved the ball, they never really put it in the end zone after an early touchdown. That's the key to this whole thing. I think our offense is balanced enough to overcome that."

Actually, the 139 yards rushing the 49ers got in the AFC championship victory over Dallas was not that extraordinary, given what the Cowboys allowed at other points this sea-

son. But the 49ers have been able to mix the run and pass better than any other team this season. Of their 18 games, in 10 they ran more than they passed. Yet, in six games, the number of running plays and passing plays were within three of each other.

"One of the more amazing aspects of their success is the rhythm of their offense," said the Chargers' coach, Bobby Ross.

When the 49ers lost, and that was only three times, they turned the ball over. Eleven times in those three games. If the Chargers cause a few early turnovers, this might still be a game after the elaborate half-time show. The Chargers' line-backer, Junior Seau, can cause that sort of havoc, though he will have to do it against an experienced offensive line that is used to complicated schemes.

"They give Junior a lot of opportunities to freelance and you have to account for number 55 no matter where he is," Barton said. "He comes from the secondary, the side and up the middle, so you've got to watch where he's at. When you do that, you can tend to lose focus on the guy you're blocking."

But the Chargers' pass defense was only 22d in the NFL this season. Free safety Stanley Richard is a very good player, and will be a free agent — but cornerbacks Darrien Gordon and Dwayne Harper have not been the strength of the defense. The Chargers allowed 228.3 passing yards per game.

"We're playing a team that likes to pass the ball and if we give up that many yards our chances of winning are slim and none," Richard said.

The Chargers' front seven are formidable. Defensive end Leslie O'Neal was second in the AFC with 12½ sacks. But by the time he charges around the end, the 49ers' quarterback, Steve Young, is quite likely to have the ball because a key part of the passing attack is the quick throw.

"The quick passing game is 25 percent of their game plan," Richard said. "You concentrate on eliminating the quick pass. Then you concentrate on shutting down the run, that's about 30 to 40 percent of their offense. You have two things to concentrate on that are more than half of their offense."

"Then you have the deep pass, which is about 10 to 15 percent of the offense."

"If you can concentrate on shutting down one thing they do well, take that out of their offense and concentrate on something else, you have a good chance to win the football game."

That's asking for a lot of concentration.

Cup Finalists Hit Slick Spot

The Associated Press

Retaining the Stanley Cup championship, the New York Rangers are finding out, could be tougher than winning it. "Every goalie has been on his game the first four games and every team has come in pumped up for us," said the defenseman Jay Wells following a 3-2 loss to Pittsburgh on Wednesday night.

The defending National Hockey League champions now have a 1-3 record

NHL HIGHLIGHTS

this short season, and have played all four games at home. They have so far come up short despite outshooting the opposition, 146-115.

"We've had a lot of chances in the last four games, especially when the game is on the line," said their captain, Mark Messier. "We're playing well, we're playing hard, we're just not converting our chances offensively."

It hasn't been any easier for the Vancouver Canucks, the other Stanley Cup finalist last season. They have only a tie to show for their first four games following a 6-2 loss to Toronto on Wednesday night.

Kevin Stevens scored at 4:21 of the final period as the Penguins handed the Rangers their third one-goal defeat and completed their three-game road trip with a third straight victory.

Stevens broke a 2-2 tie when he scored his second goal of the season on a rebound of Ulf Samuelsson's shot.

Ken Wregget outplayed Mike Richter in goal, making 39 saves as the Rangers outshot the Penguins, 41-29.

In Toronto, Mike Gartner's two goals helped the Maple Leafs get their first victory of the season.



Ken Wregget was a busy man, but outplayed New York's Mike Richter.

They outshot Vancouver, 44-26, with a 15-6 advantage in the third.

"We're not a good team right now, obviously," said Vancouver's captain, Trevor Linden. "We're not doing the little things it takes to win a hockey game."

Sharks 4, Jets 0: Arnarson stopped 28 shots for his fifth NHL shutout and Sergei

Makarov got his first two goals this season as San Jose defeated visiting Winnipeg.

Irbé kept his shutout with an assist from the replay official. Stephane Giguere slapped a shot from mid-ice between Irbé's legs as the second period ended, but a replay showed the 80-foot shot crossed the goal line as the period's last tenth of a second expired.

SCOREBOARD

NBA Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	33	8	.805	—
Charlotte	25	12	.676	8½
New York	16	27	.370	18
Boston	15	26	.366	18
Miami	13	28	.319	19
Philadelphia	12	28	.304	20½
Washington	10	27	.270	21

Central Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	25	14	.641	—
Charlotte	24	16	.600	1½
Indiana	23	16	.590	2
Chicago	20	20	.500	5½
Atlanta	18	22	.450	7½
Milwaukee	14	24	.369	9½
Detroit	12	25	.324	12

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	30	10	.750	—
Houston	24	14	.632	5
San Antonio	23	14	.625	5½
Denver	18	21	.462	11½
Dallas	16	22	.421	13
Minnesota	9	28	.243	20½

Pacific Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	28	8	.779	—
Seattle	26	9	.747	2
LA Lakers	25	13	.658	3½
Sacramento	23	17	.575	6½
Portland	20	18	.526	10½
Golden State	11	25	.304	18½
LA Clippers	7	24	.292	21

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
LA Clippers	24	22	.522	—
Boston	23	16	.590	16
LA Lakers	25	13	.658	3½
LA Lakers	25	13	.658	3½
LA Lakers	25	13	.658	3½

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WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

SPORTS

CANTONA: Soccer 'Stain'

Continued from Page 1

ing, unfortunately because he is a man of great talent. "Such behavior is not compatible with the example a high-level sportsman like Eric Cantona should set. Eric Cantona has only himself to blame."

FIFA, the international soccer federation, said in a statement: "We deplore such an action, especially considering that FIFA is carrying out a 'fair play' campaign and is trying to get fair play respected on the pitch."

Manchester United officials, while declining comment, said the club's directors would meet to decide whether Cantona should play in the team's FA Cup fourth-round match Saturday against second-division Wrexham.

"We are confident that Manchester United will meet their responsibilities," said the FA's Kelly.

Neither the FIFA nor UEFA, the European soccer federation, will penalize Cantona unless sanctions are requested by England, where Cantona's career was resuscitated three years ago. Just last spring, the English were lauding him as the first foreigner to win their player of the year award.

The incident began three minutes into the second half of the match against Crystal Palace, when Cantona kicked out at opposing defender Richard Shaw. That resulted in a red card and ejection for Cantona, his fifth since joining United two seasons ago. Television pictures showed the 6-foot, 165-pound Cantona in his black visiting uniform, walking alongside the grandstand when he turned and lunged back at a ground-level fan who apparently had been shouting abuse at him from the front row of the stands.

Cantona clumsily launched a horizontal, two-footed kick, landing hard on a short fence as the spectator was knocked backward. Cantona, regaining his balance, began throwing punches. A short exchange ensued as officials, players and coaches arrived to pull Cantona away.

The police said two Crystal Palace fans gave statements alleging assault by Cantona and Ince. The FA planned no charges against Ince or other players, Kelly said.

In what has been a scandalous season for English soccer, the FA has responded cautiously to allegations of match-fixing, drug abuse and kick-backs. But Kelly appeared much more firm this time.

"I am left with a very upsetting and disturbing feeling, looking at the pictures in the morning papers, the young children around this incident — young girl and a boy in a Manchester United shirt," Kelly said. "These are terrible graphic pictures of the incident which brings shame on football, no doubt whatsoever."

As players are expected to swallow abuse from the fans who pay their salaries, the severity of Cantona's suspension may depend on the tone of his appeal. The last time he was in such a mess, while playing for the French team Nimes in 1991, he had thrown the ball at the referee, stomped off without the permission of a red card and attacked an opponent in the locker room. When members of that disciplinary committee asked for an explanation, he walked up to each one and called him an "idiot." His suspension was doubled to



Eric Cantona, heckled, went into the stands feet first.

two months, and he announced his retirement at 25.

By then he had already played for six French clubs. At Auxerre, his first club, he was fined for punching his team's goalkeeper and was suspended three months for a dangerous tackle. He made two tours there and also at Marseille, where even the latter's volatile owner, Bernard Tapie, couldn't abide the sight of Cantona throwing his jersey at his coach during a charity match. In 1988, Cantona compared the French national team's coach, Henri Michel, to excrement; that resulted in a one-year suspension. In 1989, with Montpellier, after a distressing loss to Lille, he was suspended from two matches for hitting a teammate over the head with his playing shoe.

Cantona's passions and imaginings have long been cheered by his fans and damned by those authorized to tell him what to do. He is a painter, a poet, a motorcyclist philosopher in a French-Kerouac sort of way, but soccer people can only be so understanding. So it was in February 1992, when he joined Leeds, which went on to win its first English title in 18 years; a few months later its manager, Howard Wilkinson, was unloading his Cantona headache to United for a pittance of £1.2 million.

"I was told I was taking a risk, but you gamble on every player," Manchester United's manager, Alex Ferguson, said shortly after taking on Cantona. "You may as well gamble on one who lifts people out of their seats."

United, which hadn't won the English championship since 1967, jumped into contention for a third straight Premier League title last Sunday, when the Frenchman scored the game's lone goal to cut Blackburn's league lead to just two points.

Ferguson has been able to overlook Cantona's many fines and suspensions over the last two years — for spitting, for bookies, for accusing the referee of taking bribes — but he may not be allowed to exercise such understanding again.

Matthäus Ruptures His Achilles' Tendon

The Associated Press

FRANKFURT — Lothar Matthäus, the veteran captain of the German national team, has ruptured his left Achilles' tendon and faces a possible end to his illustrious career. "It's shattering, but I am not giving up," the 33-year-old Matthäus, said after undergoing surgery Thursday in Munich.

He was injured in a practice match Wednesday evening with his club Bayern Munich.

"It's a hard blow for the German national team," said its coach, Berti Vogts. "I talked to him on the telephone, he was on the way to surgery and he was naturally feeling down. It's a rupture."

Sampras, Sánchez Vicario and Pierce in Finals

Neither Woman Has Lost a Set

By Julie Cart

Los Angeles Times Service

MELBOURNE — Arantxa Sánchez Vicario and Mary Pierce slashed and burned their way to the women's final of the Australian Open, with neither having yet lost a set.

Sánchez Vicario ran off Marianne Werdel Witmeyer, 6-4, 6-1, in Thursday's semifinals and Pierce beat Conchita Martínez, 6-3, 6-1, to set up Saturday's final.

Werdel Witmeyer hit every ball hard and tried to place it in a corner. It was the tactic that had enabled her to upset fifth-seeded Gabriela Sabatini in the first round and propelled her through a favorable draw to her first Grand Slam semifinal.

It also is a tactic on which Sánchez Vicario thrives. The Spaniard loves nothing so much as chasing down a sharply hit ball and hitting it back, often for a winner.

"There are a lot of players that run well," Werdel Witmeyer said. "But very few run well and can hurt you at the same time. A lot of players can get to the balls and hit a defensive shot back, whereas she gets to the ball and hits an aggressive shot back."

And should she beat Pierce in the final, Sánchez Vicario will replace Steffi Graf at the top of the rankings.

She has shrugged off all opponents here as if they were no more than the pesky flies that divebomb players and spectators. Pierce, however, will be the first seeded player she has faced.

Werdel Witmeyer was forced into 43 unforced errors as Sánchez Vicario was all precision and no wasted motion on court. The match lasted 72 minutes.

As ever, Sánchez Vicario was all business afterward, not as much interested in dissecting what had just happened as in looking ahead to Pierce, whom she beat in the 1994 French Open final, 6-4, 6-4.

"I did what I had to do," she said. "First of all, I wanted to get into the final, because that's what I did last year, and now I'm here."

"I think we're both playing very well and it's going to be the second time we play each other in the final of a Grand Slam and it's going to be on a different surface. But I look to the match with confidence."

Pierce, seeded fourth, had little trouble beating the second-seeded Martínez. Pierce was treated for a problem with one shoulder and Martínez for a problem with the arch in her right foot, and neither played particularly well.

"Well, I just didn't play," Martínez said. "I mean, I made so many mistakes. I think I wasn't ready, it was quite early to play a semifinal match. I did everything right. I wake up early and good breakfast, and blah, blah, blah. I just don't know, I couldn't do my best."

Pierce hasn't won a title since October 1993, and that victory, in Flinders, Germany, was her only title of that year. She acknowledged her play against Martínez was sub-par.

"I just think I'm human and you can't play your best tennis all the time," Pierce said. "I'm happy with the way I'm playing. I think I'm playing well, but I can definitely play better."



Michael Chang was still kicking after his 6-7 (6-8), 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 semifinal loss.

Alpine Championships Called Off, Reset for 1996 in Sierra Nevada

The Associated Press

SIERRA NEVADA, Spain — The International Ski Federation, calling it a once-in-a-lifetime snow drought, on Thursday called off the 1995 World Alpine Championships and rescheduled them for next year at this same resort.

"We could never imagine that this might have happened," said Jeronimo Paz, head of the local organizing committee. "We feel some relief in that it's just postponed and not canceled."

Gian Franco Kasper, the secretary general of skiing's world governing body, said the two-week event that was to open Monday would be held here in February 1996.

"Having analyzed the present situation and having studied in detail the long-range forecast," he said, reading from a statement, FIS officials "came to the conclusion" that the championships "cannot be carried out."

The decision had been expected for several days, and followed long talks among the local organizers and FIS officials. A spell of warm weather in recent days, with temperatures near 16 centigrade (60 Fahrenheit), ended any hope

that the resort's more than 100 snow machines could save the championships. Local businesses estimated they will lose about \$11 million.

Francisco Fernández Ochoa, Spain's only Winter Olympic gold-medalist and a member of the local organizing committee, said the decision was unanimously supported by both FIS and local organizers.

"We did all we could to hold it, but you can't beat nature," he said. "It doesn't feel very good now, but it will make us come back and have even better championships next year. I've never seen anything like this before."

Quick-changing weather across Europe has disrupted several World Cup races this season. The Sierra Nevada region has had its first snowless January in at least 30 years and its lightest snowfall in more than 90 winters. Though it is Europe's southernmost ski resort, it is well known for producing snow abundantly.

The decision will still be a blow to one of Spain's poorest regions, where about \$1.2 billion in public and private funds had been spent on the championships.

Team New Zealand Seeks to Have Nippon Yacht Banned

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SAN DIEGO — Team New Zealand has protested the legality of a remodeled Japanese yacht that won four of its six races during the first round of the America's Cup challenger trials.

Team New Zealand contends that Nippon Challenge altered the yacht so much that it should be considered a new boat, and that it violated rules limiting the number of yachts each syndicate can build.

"It's pretty astounding they would go to something like this at the conclusion of the first round robin," Nippon's sailing coach, Peter Gilmore, said Wednesday night. "If they had any suspicions, they should have brought them up at the earliest time."

Nippon is third among the challengers,

behind Team New Zealand and the other New Zealand team, TAG Heuer Challenge.

A Team New Zealand spokesman said the protest "should not be seen as us getting at the Japanese. Their modification has highlighted a gray area in the rule, which needs to be cleared up."

Team New Zealand is protesting the modification made to the Nippon yacht registered as JPN-30. After a disappointing showing during the International America's Cup Class World Championship late last year, Nippon made major alterations to JPN-30 that included lengthening and narrowing the hull.

Under new America's Cup rules, each syndicate is allowed to build only two

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MELBOURNE — Pete Sampras, emotionally and physically drained, continued his rollercoaster ride through the Australian Open on Thursday by beating Michael Chang to again advance to the final.

The defending champion overcame his fellow American, 6-7 (6-8), 6-3, 6-4, 6-4, in 3 hours, 7 minutes.

The other men's semifinal, between No. 2 seed Andre Agassi and the unseeded Aaron Krickstein, was to be played Friday.

"People have to understand I'm normal," said Sampras, who, because of his seriously ill coach, Tim Gullikson, broke down and cried during his four-hour quarterfinal defeat of Jim Courier.

"I have feelings like everyone," he said. "I'm not a robot out there. I'm as normal as the guy across the street."

This tournament, he said, "is the most special to me, because of the circumstances and the fact I was down and out against Magnus Larsson and down and out against Courier and fought back. I showed more heart than I probably ever had."

Sampras, who has been playing with and against Chang since both were eight-years-old, won this match with his willingness to come to the net in yet another test of will and endurance. He had been extended to five sets in his two previous matches.

"I told him I wished it was four out of seven instead of three out of five," said Chang, who out-aced his taller opponent, 20-13. "I've out-aced him before on service winners, but then again, I'd rather trade the match for the ace."

"He amazes me," said Sampras. "He's the only guy that if I hit it 20 feet over his head, he's going to try to run after it and go into the stands and try to get it back."

He won 64 points at the net to just 15 for Chang.

"This court is probably the toughest court for my body," said the visibly tired winner. "It's very sticky. There's not a lot of give out there. I've got two days' rest, which is good. My body is a bit banged up."

Both were on serve in the fourth set before Sampras, hitting a hard forehand down the line, broke Chang in the fifth game and served out the match, winning when Chang's attempted backhand shot down the line went into the net.

Gullikson, 43, who had returned home to the Chicago suburb of Wheaton, was admitted Wednesday to the University of Illinois at Chicago Medical Center for brain and heart tests.

He has been diagnosed as having a congenital heart condition and had two minor strokes last year. A hospital spokesman said that Gullikson's family had requested that no more information be released about his condition.

Sampras said Gullikson was now back home and that "Tim is doing very good."

"I spoke to him this morning. I just spoke to him after the match and he's in good spirits," he said.

Over the next couple of days he would be talking to Gullikson again.

"Pete has handled this past couple of weeks extremely well," Chang said. "He's been very good as far as being able to focus on his tennis and still be a very good, compassionate person at the same time."

"I think we've seen a different side of Pete Sampras that we definitely have not seen in the past."

Other Open Results

Men's Doubles, Semifinals: Mark Knowles, Bahamas, and Daniel Nestor, Canada, def. Petr Korda, Czech Republic, and Patrick McEnroe, U.S., 6-4, 7-6, 6-4. Andre Agassi, U.S., and Andrei Medvedev, Russia, def. Andrei Cherkasov, Russia, and Andrei Kuznetsov, Russia, 6-4, 6-7 (6-8), 6-4, 7-5.

Women's Doubles, Semifinals: Gigi Fernandez, U.S., and Natasha Zvereva, Belarus, def. Lindsay Davenport and Lisa Raymond (3), U.S., 6-4, 6-4. Jana Novotna, Czech Republic, and Arantxa Sanchez Vicario (2), Spain, def. Hanne Bollgren, Netherlands, and Larissa Neiland (4), Latvia, 7-5, 6-1.

Mixed Doubles, Quarterfinals: Rick Leach, U.S., and Natasha Zvereva, Belarus, def. Sander Stolle, Australia, and Mary Joe Fernandez (7), U.S., 7-6, 6-4, 6-4.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

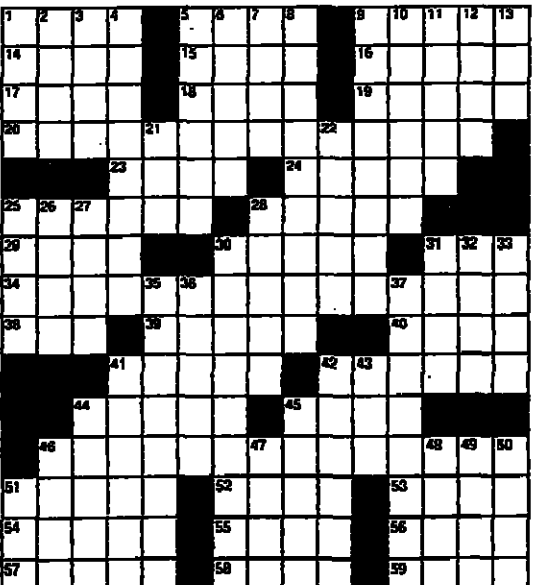
- 1 Lie poolside
3 Love of Lucy
5 Author — Gallant

DOWN

- 14 Anderson of TV sitcoms
15 Nerve impulse conduit
16 Shelley's "Adonais," e.g.

DOWN

- 1 Split the beans
2 Top-of-the-line
3 Comely
4 Caribbean capital
5 Clothing tag name
6 Live and breathe
7 Soak up
8 Personified
9 Smokehouse flavoring
10 Seal hunters
11 Nettles
12 "Eureka!"
13 Baseball exec Thrift
21 Star of "The Greatest"
22 Chalk up
23 Skywalker, e.g.
24 Terrorists' tools
27 Kind of curve
28 Affected
30 Hoedown
31 Exploit
32 Fitting phrase ending
33 All-powerful one
34 Not fixed
36 1960s hit "Walk Away"



Solution to Puzzle of Jan. 26

ADO ASH HUH H
MARK SPITZ ATONE
INDONESIA SANTA
JEAN SHEPHERD
EMBAR ANIMUS
LOOK TESTED
FAN ALLSTERS
BONNIE POINTS
LOCATE DIVA
ORA ARA EMOTED
BARBARA BOXER
BLEAR DONATIONS
ELENA JOE COCKER
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(Continued From Page 4)

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every Saturday in the IHT

OBSERVER

Charles With a C?

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — Reading too much Charles Dickens lately. Which reminds me of a Greenwich Village bookshop clerk. A young man, College age, I asked for a copy of "David Copperfield."

"Who's the author?" he asked. "Dickens," I said. "What's his first name?" he asked. Recalling that exchange, I'll start over:

Reading too much Charles Dickens lately. First thought, the dumb book-clerk story reminds me of a waiter story. It really happened during a lunch in Martinsburg, West Virginia.

Four of us were lunching in Martinsburg, and I was playing the old crock. Saying something like, "It's amazing how little America's young crocks know of our ancient world. Take our waiter—"

He was an alert young crock. College age. "I'll bet he doesn't even know who Joe DiMaggio is!" All three scoffed and scoffed. "Not know who Joe DiMaggio is? Don't be silly."

When the waiter, alert and college age, came back to the table a scoffer asked if he knew who Joe DiMaggio was. His uneasy look said, "These old crocks are putting me on," but out loud he said, "Well, I think I've heard of him somewhere."

"Know who he is?"

The waiter took his time, searched the memory file in the back of his skull, then said, "An actor or something, isn't he?"

What can we take for granted anymore? You're going to say Newt Gingrich, everybody knows who he is. That's what you think.

Face the facts of modernity: College-age people never heard of Joe DiMaggio, never heard of Charles Dickens, are already forgetting they ever heard of Newt Gingrich, those who did.

See why I say, "Reading too much Charles Dickens lately?" It's a confession to a terminal social condition: headed down the tubes.

You know — those few of you who don't fear the tubes as much as the alternative and so are still with me — you know how Dickens had this ability to put the exactly right name on his fictional characters.

There are Hancock & Flobby, the dry-goods people; Uriah Heep, the pious hypocrite; Sir Mulberry Hawk, the seducer of innocent girls; Ebenezer Scrooge, the soul of greed; Mister Murdstone, the brutal stepfather; Mister Micawber, the eternal debtor; and on, and on.

Because of reading too much Dickens lately, I am amazed at how many real people are going around in Dickensian names. What's worse, I waste hours puzzling over what kinds of characters Dickens would have built for these names.

So I challenge all who hunger for literary fame to test their Dickens potential thusly:

Compose a list of 10 well-known living people whose names would have caught Dickens's eye. Describe the character Dickens would have created for each name. If you feel cocky, fit all 10 into a single plot. Dickens might have written, and send to me.

This column will publish the winner's very own name! Maybe part of his entry if it shows real Dickens know-how.

Need some Dickens-type names to get the feel of things? Here are a few to give you the idea: Ira Magaziner, Danielle Steele, Leon Panetta, Ollie North, George Pataki, Newt Gingrich, Si Newhouse, Mandy Patinkin, Bob Dole, Twyla Tharp, Arianna Huffington, Dan Quayle, Lance Ito —

Better to pick your own. The world's full of them.

New York Times Service

Tàpies: In Life and Art, Fleeing the World

By Alan Riding
New York Times Service

BARCELONA — The shuttered exterior of Antoni Tàpies's home in Barcelona says a lot about the 71-year-old Catalan painter.

"I live an isolated life," he said in the quiet of his sitting room, surrounded by Asian and African art and works by Picasso, Miró and Klee. "I like to stay home. Perhaps I spend more time than others painting."

Indeed, most mornings he can be found working in his studio, a glass-roofed room lined with large canvases, many exhibiting familiar black crosses and powdered marble surfaces.

Then, during three months each summer, he retreats still further to a country home. "That's when I do the most work," he said. "I do nothing except meditate and paint, meditate and paint."

This single-mindedness certainly accounts for his huge body of work: 7,000 paintings and sculptures as well as thousands more drawings and engravings. Even now, he said, he usually completes a large painting — some are 19 feet by 10 feet (5.5 by 3 meters) — in a day, and at most in three days.

But the obnoxious approach of this soft-spoken man with a mane of hair also helps to explain the introspective and intuitive nature of his abstract paintings and collages. In his work as in his life, it seems, Spain's best-known living artist likes to flee the world.

Through April 23, the Guggenheim Museum SoHo in New York City will show 56 of his paintings, dating from 1946 through 1991, in what it describes as the first large-scale exhibition of his works in the United States since 1977. A dozen more of his recent paintings are on display at PaceWildenstein's gallery in New York through March 4.

How can just 56 paintings represent such a prolific lifetime's work, he was asked. He laughed.

"You could pick 56 others and make a very different show, but you have to have confidence in the curator," he said. "Some more literary, Surrealist and political works have been eliminated, but the selection is good."

The Guggenheim's exhibition has been organized by Carmen Gimenez, the museum's curator of 20th-century



Antoni Tàpies is revered as a national monument in Spain.

art. She has included 42 of the 69 works that formed part of a Tàpies retrospective at the Jeu de Paume gallery in Paris, which drew 70,000 visitors during two months late last year.

The Paris show was generally well received, but for some French critics, Tàpies seemed to be more daring and innovative 30 years ago than today.

"People are always trying to classify us so we lose less of a danger," he responded with no apparent venom. "I have always worked with the same spirit of experimentation and adventure as when I was 20 years old."

Yet over the decades his painting has changed. If only because Spain has changed, from a nation that was tearing itself apart in civil war when Tàpies was a teenager to one that finally broke free from dictatorship when he was in his 50s. His art was never overtly political, but until 1975 he worked in a Spain trapped in the past.

His early years were difficult. He felt pulled in different directions by his mother's devout Roman Catholicism and his father's atheism. He was not a healthy youth, immobilized for more than a year by tuberculosis when

he was 20. His Catalan nationalist family also felt humiliated by Franco, who banned the use of the Catalan language.

All this influenced his art. He quickly rejected figurative painting. "With photography and cinema, we no longer need visual descriptions of reality," he explained.

So he began experimenting with collages, using cartons, metal sheets, cloth, string and other materials that, he recalled, "I could tear at to give vent to my passions."

Already in 1946, the cross appeared in his paintings. "At the time, Spain was truly a cemetery," he explained. "The presence of the cross was very intense and I used it as a symbol of primitive Christianity as well as to criticize what we called National Catholicism." In time, though, the cross and the letter X became a sort of Tàpies trademark.

His role models were still Miró, Klee and Picasso and he managed to meet all three. But after he held his first — barely noticed — show in New York in 1954 at the Martha Jackson Gallery, he was exposed to American

Abstract Expressionism. And in Paris, he said, he came into contact with what was known as Lyrical Abstraction or Informalism.

By 1962, when he held his first one-man show at the Guggenheim, Tàpies had already gained recognition. In the years that followed, the Martha Jackson Gallery frequently exhibited his paintings, while he gained a loyal following in Germany and Switzerland. But it was not until after democracy returned to Spain that museums there organized shows of his works.

As a Catalan, though, it was no less important to him that democracy also restored Catalonia's right to its own language, and to this day Tàpies supports the region's continuing fight for greater autonomy.

"We run the risk of being absorbed by Spain," he said. "Catalonia is important for what it represents historically. It has been a model of a democratic and liberal nation."

In 1984, as his contribution to Barcelona's cultural renaissance, he created the Antoni Tàpies Foundation and established a museum in a century-old building designed by the Modernist architect Lluís Domènech i Montaner. He donated 300 paintings to its permanent collection, but it also frequently exhibits works by other modern artists.

Today, Tàpies is revered as a national monument in Spain, even though his horizons still stretch little beyond Catalonia. Indeed, until 1992 when a show of his work was put on in Seville, he had never visited Andalusia, a region central to Spain's identity.

Rather, it could be said he is more interested in traveling in his mind. He explained that he has long been drawn by science, by physics, biology and cosmology and, specifically, by the idea that the earth is a totally living organism. "It makes one change the way one looks at religious and mystical phenomena," he said.

This did not lead him back to Christianity. Instead, he found a spiritual home in Zen Buddhism, through which, he said, "without the need for the supernatural, man can reach ultimate reality through introspection." And now, through his paintings, he struggles to achieve "the ultimate mysterious unity" that links the entire universe.

PEOPLE

Onassis' Apartment Sold for \$9.5 Million

The New York apartment of the late Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis has been sold to the billionaire David Koch for \$9.5 million. Women's Wear Daily reported that Koch paid \$500,000 extra for the 14-room Fifth Avenue apartment to pre-empt competitors. Onassis, who died in May, bought the apartment in 1964 for \$200,000.

Ernest Hemingway's three sons have won the right to approve and benefit from future sale of work that was unpublished when his fourth wife died in 1986. The writings were left to the Hemingway Foundation by Mary Hemingway. The sons, John, Patrick and Gregory, by Hemingway's previous wives, sued the foundation when it claimed that it owned some of the overseas rights. The material includes excised chapters from "A Farewell to Arms" and a chronicle titled "The African Journal."

The author Taslima Nasrin was awarded a \$4,000 prize in Sweden on Thursday for her literary work. She received the 1995 Montanien prize for her "invaluable contribution" to acknowledging the plight of oppressed people, particularly women. Nasrin, who has taken refuge in Sweden, fled her native Bangladesh in August because her life was threatened by Muslim fundamentalists.

The Dutch royal house won their latest battle to keep the tabloid press out of their private lives. In an out-of-court settlement, Story magazine has agreed to pay Prince Claus, the husband of Queen Beatrix, 25,000 guilders (\$14,700) in damages for an article that implied mental instability ran in his family. The prince consort said he would give the money to charity.

WEATHER

Europe

City	Today	High	Low	Temp	Wind	Humidity	Clouds
Amsterdam	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Antwerp	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Brussels	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Cologne	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Düsseldorf	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Frankfurt	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Hamburg	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
London	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Madrid	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Munich	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Nice	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Paris	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Rome	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Stockholm	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Switzerland	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Toronto	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Warsaw	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Zurich	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh

Forecast for Saturday through Monday, as provided by Accu-Weather.

City	Today	High	Low	Temp	Wind	Humidity	Clouds
Amsterdam	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Antwerp	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Brussels	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Cologne	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Düsseldorf	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Frankfurt	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Hamburg	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
London	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Madrid	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Munich	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Nice	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Paris	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Rome	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Stockholm	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Switzerland	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Toronto	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Warsaw	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Zurich	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh

Asia

City	Today	High	Low	Temp	Wind	Humidity	Clouds
Amsterdam	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Antwerp	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Brussels	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Cologne	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Düsseldorf	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Frankfurt	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Hamburg	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
London	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Madrid	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Munich	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Nice	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Paris	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Rome	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Stockholm	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Switzerland	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Toronto	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Warsaw	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Zurich	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh

Latin America

City	Today	High	Low	Temp	Wind	Humidity	Clouds
Amsterdam	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Antwerp	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Brussels	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Cologne	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Düsseldorf	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Frankfurt	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Hamburg	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
London	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Madrid	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Munich	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Nice	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Paris	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Rome	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Stockholm	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Switzerland	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Toronto	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Warsaw	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Zurich	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh

North America

City	Today	High	Low	Temp	Wind	Humidity	Clouds
Amsterdam	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Antwerp	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Brussels	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Cologne	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Düsseldorf	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Frankfurt	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Hamburg	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
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Madrid	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Munich	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
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Switzerland	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Toronto	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Warsaw	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh
Zurich	63	63	48	10.1	12	50	sh

WEEKEND SKI REPORT

	Depth L	Mts. U Plots	Res. Plots	Snow State	Last Snow	Comments	Resort	Depth L	Mts. U Plots	Res. Plots	Snow State	Last Snow	Comments
Andorra							Italy						
Pas de la Casa	50-100	Good	Open	Var	24/1	Good, some low upper, good	Bormio	30-100	Good	Open	Var	24/1	14-18 lbs, upper slopes good
Soldau	40-60	Good	Open	Var	24/1	Good, some low upper, patchy	Cortina	30-240	Good	Open	Var	24/1	35-40 lbs open, good skiing
Austria							Cortina	25-35	Good	Open	Var	23/1	35-40 lbs open, mainly runs
Ischgl	110-240	Good	Open	Var	25/1	4-11 lbs open, good skiing	Courmayeur	20-180	Good	N/A	Hyv	25/1	12-23 lbs open, lower runs heavy
Kitzbühel	60-120	Good	Open	Var	24/1	5-12 lbs, most on upper runs	Selva	35-80	Good	Open	Pctd	23/1	All 78 lbs and Sella Ronda open
Obertauern	60-90	Good	Open	Var	24/1	2-12 lbs open, excellent skiing	Sestriere	50-100	Good	Open	Pctd	23/1	Good on well-groomed paths
Salzach	50-150	Good	Open	Var	24/1	Water in open, fresh good base	Norway						
St. Anton	70-100	Good	Open	Var	24/1	Grey snow, but avalanche danger	Galle	75-80	Good	Open	Var	23/1	All 18 lbs open, good skiing
Canada							Spain						
Lake Louise	35-130	Good	N/A	Pctd	21/1	All runs open, good skiing	Baqueira Beret	110-140	Good	Open	Pctd	18/1	All lifts and plots open, good
Whistler	90-250	Good	Open	Pctd	19/1	All the good, some hardback	Switzerland						
France							Arosa	80-130	Good	Open	Hyv	25/1	All 16 lbs open, good skiing
Pi de Huéiz	120-250	Fair	Open	Hyv	24/1	10-15 lbs, top good above 2100m	Crans Montana	100-300	Fair	Open	Hyv	24/1	14-43 lbs, avalanche danger
Les Arcs	140-300	Fair	Open	Hyv	24/1	25-19 lbs, top good above 2200m	Davos	90-150	Good	Open	Var	25/1	30-36 lbs open, good skiing
Avoriaz	150-230	Fair	Open	Hyv	25/1	20-11 lbs, top good above 2100m	Gandelsried	25-140	Fair	Open	Hyv	24/1	All 14 lbs open, good above 1700m
Chamonix	70-445	Fair	Open	Hyv	24/1	Skiing restricted by avalanches	Klosters	75-150	Good	Open	Pctd	25/1	All 25 lbs open, good on firm base
Chorvachal	110-260	Fair	Open	Hyv	24/1	60-90 lbs, upper slopes closed	St.Moritz	70-130	Good	Open	Var	25/1	All 16 lbs open, good skiing, mostly
Les Deux Alpes	50-250	Fair	Open	Hyv	24/1	20-65 lbs, wet and running slush	Verbier	55-210	Fair	Open	Hyv	24/1	Many lifts not weather hold
Megeve	80-240	Fair	Open	Hyv	24/1	30-41 lbs open, top lifts open	Wengen	30-100	Fair	Open	Hyv	25/1	15-22 lbs, lower slopes patchy
Méribel	80-230	Fair	Open	Hyv	24/1	30-50 lbs, good avalanche risk	Zermatt	75-280	Good	Open	Pctd	25/1	34-75 lbs in Zermatt/Corvatsch
La Plagne	60-250	Fair	Open	Hyv	24/1	Fresh above 2000m, heavy below	USA						
Les Deux Ecrins	60-150	Good	Open	Hyv	24/1	25-13 lbs, top good above 2100m	Aspen	105-110	Good	Open	Pctd	18/1	All 8-17 lbs open
Tignes	155-260	Good	Open	Hyv	25/1	20-50 lbs, big avalanche risk	Brackendridge	85-105	Good	Open	Pctd	18/1	18-21 lbs open
Val d'Isère	160-235	Fair	Open	Hyv	24/1	20-50 lbs, big avalanche risk	Mammoth	265-450	Pctd	Open	Pctd	24/1	15-30 lbs open, superb skiing
Val Thorens	220-280	Fair	Open	Hyv	24/1	15-28 lbs open, stormy	Steamboat	125-145	Good	Open	Pctd	18/1	All 80 lbs open
Germany							Therndorf	125-135	Good	Open	Pctd	18/1	All 10 lbs open
Garmisch	10-60	Fair	Open	Hyv	25/1	29-38 lbs open, upper lifts still closed	Val	90-105	Good	Open	Pctd	19/1	All 25 lbs open
Obertauern	30-170	Fair	Open	Hyv	25/1	14-27 lbs open, top to closed	Key Lift/Depth in cm on lower and upper slopes, lifts, Plots/Mountainide plots, Res. Plots/Runs leading to resort village, Art/Artificial snow.						
													INFO: Suggested by the Ski Club of Great Britain